# DEPENDEN

Gunfire: the new Mersey sound The gang wars of Liverpool

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# Minister in secret alert on job losses

Leaked letter reveals concern

DONALD MACINTYRE Political Editor

Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade, has sent a confidential note to ministerial colleagues warning that manufacturing industry is threatened with a sharp fall in jobs during the run-up to the next election.

Mr Lang has forwarded to the Treasury a pessimistic as-sessment by his officials of the prospects for the manufacturing sector after exposing a startling discrepancy hetween official figures for manufacturing output and those for jobs.

The assessment is attached to a note from Mr Lang - both documents leaked to the Independent - expressing concern to William Waldegrave, the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, over what he calls the "puzzle" of why manufacturing employment last recorded its sharpest annual increase in 20 years at a time when output was static

or falling.
The official draft of the March issue of the Department of Trade and Industry's Monthly Economic Assessment - an internal Whitehall hulletin produced by the department's economists for circulation to the Treasury, Bank of England and other government departments - warns that the "balance of risks" suggests that employment in manufacturing will start to fall. While it rose dramatically last year, the trend of manufacturing employment has been downward for three decades.

The bulletin says the "con-tinued sluggishness of our European markets and the subbuilding up of stocks as demand

ture output." It adds that recent surveys by both the Confederation of British Industry and the British Chambers of Commerce "indicate that firms are expecting to shed labour over the coming months".

Ian McCartney, Labour's employment spokesman, seized on the leak as evidence of widespread job insecurity and that there was a "feel-had factor" in



lan Lang: Pessimistic over

much of industry. He said: "This correspondence belies what ministers are saying in public. In public they are talking up the economy but in private they are much more worried. This exposes their rear of being found out.

Most of the DTT's official Assessment is taken up with a detailed exploration of possible reasons for the apparent con-flict within the statistics and concludes, in the words of Mr Lang's summary, "that either stantial stock over-hang [the manufacturers are extremely optimistic about future pros-

fails to match production] present considerable threats to futo see employment falling over the next few months".

But the officials' Assessment makes clear they see the prospect of falling employment is much more likely given that any suggestion of optimism by manufacturers "about the prospects for rapid future demand growth" is not borne out hy evidence from the CBI's survey of business prospects.

The officials also give markedly sober view of manufacturing prospects, pointing out that the net result of rising employment and falling output is "falling productivity" with the result that unit wage costs were 4.5 per cent higher in the last quarter of last year than a year

It points out that manufacturing investment rose by 8.5 per cent in 1995 compared with the Treasury forecast of 10 per cent and that it actually fell by 9 per cent in the last quarter of 1995. It adds: "Manufacturing investment is of course notoriously volatile. Nonetheless the severity of the fall casts further doubt about the underlying health of the manufacturing sector."

The DTI analysis examines other possible explanations for the apparent growth in employment and slowing of output. One is that there may be classification discrepancies, with some sectors being classified as manufacturing for some purposes and service industries for others.

The department said it refused to comment on "leaked letters" hut one Whitehall official said it was normal for economists repeatedly to look at underlying trends thrown up Armour of Allah: the force Israel wants to destroy

INSIDE TODAY'S SECTION TWO



### Pupils of 7 suicidal about exams

PETER VICTOR

Children as young as seven are so stressed by school work and exams that some of them consider suicide, according to a report published today.

Mounting pressure for academic success has made school work the number one worry in children's lives.

A survey report entitled Stressed Out, which was pro-duced for the charity ChildLine, pinpoints parental pressure, fears about the future and the lack of anyone to talk to as key sources of stress among pupils.

The majority of children who called the charity's belpline in distress over their schoolwork were aged 14 to 16, but Child-Line has had calls from some pupils as young as 12 who were already afraid of not getting into university. The youngest caller

One girl, called Susie, tried to hang herself because of the pressure of GCSEs before ringing Childline last year. Others were in tears when they called. many had played truant to avoid stressful work and 13 said they were contemplating

More than 1.25 million pupils are preparing to sit exams this summer. Of the 17,004 children who called ChildLine about problems with school in 1994-95, just 196 were primarily concerned about work and exams - far less than for bullying. abuse or relationships.

A survey of 1,000 children carried out for the report found that 79 per cent worried about exams and schoolwork "more than about anything else in their lives. John Hall, the report's author, said the figures suggest many children are able to cope with exam pressures

with the help of friends, teachers and parents. But he added: The children who call Child-Line are the ones who feel unable to share their worries with anyone else or who have tried and found their listeners

unsympathetic. These are children for whom the pressure has become unbearable, and many feel their whole future bangs in the bal-ance. They describe feeling out of control, panic-stricken, overburdened and overwhelmed. often saying they cannot cope any more. Many say that they have little support and that

they feel unable to confide in those around them."

Parents with high expectations can make matters worse when what they see as encouragement is interpreted by the child as yet more pressure to succeed

One tearful 15-year-old girl told ChildLine that her mother had told her she would have to leave home if she failed to get straight A grades in her GCSEs. Others said their parents put

pressure on them to achieve what they themselves had failed to achieve at school. Violent schoolboy, page 5

### IN BRIEF

**Euphoric Italy** Despite the fragility of the centre-left victory in the elections. l a wave of enphoria swept over Italy yesterday indicating the arrival of something truly new in the country's politics. Page 10

Teachers criticised Teachers who have voted to go on strike in a dispute over a disтиртіче 13-year-old boy were criticised by politicians from both main parties. Page 5

Landmine stand Britain is today expected to

announce a change in its poli-cy on anti-personnel landmines, and to tell the United Nations Weapons Convention Review Conference which opened in Geneva vesterday that it will support a world-wide han on their manufacture, export and use.

Long haul to peace US negotiators face an uphill struggle to win a ceasefire in Page 11 Lebanon.

Mitterrand's memoirs The recollections of the former French president François Mitterrand contain his last words on two big controversies of his later years: the Vichy regime and accusations that he "misread history" by resisting the reunifica-Page 13 tion of Germany.

Today's weather Dry and bright weather should spread from the west during the Section Two, page 25



ONE

### Police quizzed over child assaults

### ROGER DOBSON

Allegations of child abuse were made against both serving and former police officers during the North Wales child abuse inquiry.

The allegations were referred to the Police Complaints Authority, but the PCA decided there was insufficient evidence for any action. The PCA did not hold a so-called supervised inquiry, but examined the case

The team of three child care experts who carried out a two year inquiry into abuse at bomes in Clwyd say they are concerned that no mechanism exists for mandatory independent investigations.

The Clwyd report says: "The

### Victims of the abusers

child protection inquiry, is crucial. The independent panel is concerned that there appears to he no mechanism to ensure that independent investigations are conducted of allegations made against former and serving po-lice officers and that the police authority handling of investigations can in some circum-

stances avoid public scrutiny." Later the report says that the police took 3,755 statements during the inquiry, and adds: "Of the number of statements taken, it is not clear how many

It is also unclear how many other professionals, including police officers, were named in the statements as perpetrators of assaults."

A spokesman for North Wales Police said yesterday: "In the context of the Jillings report, all allegations were investigated and the case papers submitted to the Crown Prosecution Service. Allegations against serving officers were additionally examined by the independent Police Complaints

Authority.

falls into the category of general misunderstanding."

A PCA spokesman said: "Allegations of child abuse were made against both serving and former police officers in the North Wales abuse inquiry but were not substantiated.

"We saw all the cases and went right through them. We believe they were investigated to the best of the ability of the police service given the very long passage of time. It was not a supervised inquiry. They were in-ternal inquiries but when they were completed they were examined by the PCA.

It also emerged yesterday that the Government and council officials are to study the case of a former children's home role of the police in the recent were forwarded to the proseinvestigation, as in any large cution service for consideration. The [Jillings] report's commanager jailed in Glasgow for
ments on police complaints

15 years for a catalogue of manager jailed in Glasgow for

ahuse against hoys. Peter Harley, 50, of Cardiff, had ad-mited at a previous hearing 17 indecency charges involving boys aged six to 16, over a fiveyear period from 1977-1982.

At the High Court in Glasw the judge, Lord Weir, said the case raised the questions of how such a man came be in charge of a children's home and why the children were unable to get help over the years of abuse

Four Labour MPs will today meet William Hague, the Secretary of State for Wales, to call for the publication of the report by a team chaired by John Jillings, former director of social work in Derbyshire.

The deputation, led by Labour's health spokesman in TURN TO PAGE 2

people the right to paint their

homes whatever colour they

umphed in the end. This has

been the best entertainment I've

had in two years. I'm not hitter,

hut I think some of the reaction

lilac will last for another ten

years. I thought this hit of the

road needed to be made a bit

He admitted there was some

small opposition closer to home from his wife, Barbara.

Sometimes she likes it, some-

Photograph by Phil Yeomans

"As far as I'm concerned the

has been a hit silly.

more interesting.

times she doesn't.'

He said: "Good sense has tri-

# THE £25 A MONTH

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The value of tax ( dock legs of a country per analithances carcumstance, and may be affected be funered once in against a the value of uncertainty and are metoric from them may fell as well as rise, a distinguished with therefore a direct not get back the full amount one meet. Althor Nov. in the money of the transfer of all those need such advice con devalucontinuations and articles product in manged by they Named that True Manager Limited Alice, "Ann. of an inflational or release trade and the State of State State of State ABBEY NATIONAL PLC. WHICH IS REGULATED BY THE

### Owner in the pink over lilac listed cottage a victory by national cam-paigners, who claim it gives Gummer ruled that the choice District Council, said the local



BUSINESS 18-22 COMMENT 16, 17 CROSSWORD 26 GAZETTE 16

NEWS ANALYSIS IS LEADING ARTICLES IN LETTERS IN

MICHAEL STREETER

It might have been seen as adding a little bit of local colour. But conservationists and planners objected when retired computer designer Ted Braun-holtz (pictured left) painted

his Grade II listed house lilac. Now Mr Braunholtz, 66, has won an appeal against the hureaucrats and been backed by Environment Secretary, John Gummer, in his choice of lilac grey for his £300,000 home in herbourne, Dorset.

In a verdict which might bring belated comfort to Conservative MP Teresa Gorman, who also experienced planning difficulties over alterations to her Essex farmhouse, Mr

of colour for a house "is substantially a matter of personal

The "elegant gothic revival" home lies at the heart of the Dorset town, where yellow stone is the distinctive hallmark of local buildings.

When Mr Braunholtz decided to paint the outside in lilac grey, with the details in pure lilac, the local community was horrified. Mr Jack Forrest, 71, a retired architect, who represents the Sherbourne Society. said: "We felt that painting this house lilac was not appropriate.

I thought it was a bit garish. We objected to it." Des Derrien, director of

section

authority accepted that the painting had been done in good faith. "It looked quite tasteful, there was no malice in the decision to paint it lilac."

However, lest any other locals should feel like giving free tein to psychedelic expressionism on the outsides of their homes, he added soberty: "I don't think this decision will set a precedent, I don't think there will he a free-for-all.' Indeed, English Heritage

said the decision merely showed each case would have to be decided on its own facts and could not be regarded as a change in the law.

However, Mr Braunholtz's planning for West Dorset success is now being hailed as

> ARTS 10-12 BACKGAMMON 23 CHESS 23 CROSSWORD 26 FASHION 14, 15 HEALTH 6-8 LISTINGS 24, 25 LIVING 4, 5 MEDIA 16, 17 RADIO 27 TELEVISION 28 WEATHER 25

NEWS 2-13 OBITUARIES 14 SPORT 23 - 26 SHARES 21

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PERSONAL INVISTMENT AUTHORITY, ONLY SELLS ITS OWN LIFE ASSURANCE, PENSION AND UNIT TRUST PRODUCTS.

## Minister heckled over local pay deals

BARRIE CLEMENT Labour Editor

Angry nurses yesterday warned the health minister that they should not he treated like other bealth workers over pay.

John Bowis, under secretary of state for health, was heckled and barracked on the first day of the Royal College of Nursing annual congress in Bournemouth as he tried to explain the Government's move towards locally negotiated

And in ber keynote speech Betty Kershaw, president of the college, made it clear that nurses wanted to be treated more like doctors who this year were awarded a nationwide in-

Dr Kershaw reopened a wound with public service union Unison, attacking its agreement with health service management which provided for an element of pay bargaining at trust level. While Unison, which represents both nurses and ancillary staff, bad struck a deal over locally negotiated pay, the RCN was opposed to it. Dr Kersbaw told delegates.

"Nurses cannot be treated like other health care workers, because we aren't like other health care workers. This is the Royal College of Nursing. It isn't and never will be a Royal College of Health Workers."

To applause the college president emphasised that the RCN was a professional union. "The world's largest professional union."

She reminded the minister that the conference this week would be dehating professional issues and the trend towards

increasing medical responsibil-ity for nurses. "You will be left in absolutely no doubt that nurses are a professional group and we should be treated as a professional group.

Responding to ber assertions Boh Abberley, head of health at Unison, argued that it was "a time for unity, not throwing stones. Unison bad thought it politic to negotiate a compromise over local pay rather than see a system imposed on health

In a question and answer ses-sion which followed the RCN president's speech, comments by Mr Bowis were greeted with considerable scepticism by delegates. Asked whether the message from congress would be that people should vote Labour or Liberal Democrat, Christine Hancock, general secretary of the college, noticeahly failed to reject such an interpretation.

Sbe said: "There is no doubt they showed their concern about several of the Government's policies in particular real concern about the frag- nurses' pay".

rious infections while in hospi-

tal, according to the Royal

College of Nursing, writes Bar-

ifesto launched yesterday, it challenged the Government to

publish national data on what

many RCN memhers helieve is

Christine Hancock, general secretary of the RCN, said it was

a growing problem.

As part of its National Man-



Carers' voice: Christine Hancock, general secretary of the RCN, talks to journalists in Bournemouth yesterday

mentation of the health service and a significant part of that is the approach to pay."

The conference is due today to debate a motion proposing that the nurses' pay review body "is no longer an appropriate method of determining

surgery or intravenous therapy who were the most vulnerable

to infection. "They expect, rightly, that the hospital will

"The consequences of bos-

pital acquired infection can be

devastating - and even in rare

circumstances fatal, as the re-

treat them, not harm them.

One in 10 patients contract se- the sickest patients, undergoing measure of the quality of a bos- the hospital environment.

Last year the body proposed a 1 per cent national increase trusts might negotiate a further 2 per cent. This year it has offered 1 per cent nationwide rise with no figure recommended for

pital and needed to be taken just

as seriously as waiting times or

the number of patients treated.

issue, the RCN said that such in-

fections constituted a silent

epidemic. Hospitals were "con-

ducive to the development and

In its latest publication on the

Bowis suggested that the prea 1 per cent national increase sent shortage of nurses was a lo-together with a suggestion that cal issue rather than a national one and that trusts had been given the flexibility on pay to address the problem.

He said there had been a real

Bowis contrasted with a far trust-based bargaining. increase in nurses' pay of 70 per more favourable response to To cries of "rubhisb" Mr. cent since the Conservatives Harriet Harman, Labour's

fallen, he said.

Hospital bugs infect one in 10 patients

came to power in 1979. Under

the last Labour Government

their standard of living bad

The cool and sometimes

noisy reception afforded Mr

and emergency department. The document estimated that if one in five infections were pre-Nurses, however, reported that vented, more than £15m a year such standards were too often hreached. The document attacked the ber of patients waiting on trol-leys before admission to a

hospital through an accident

lack of national standards which left old people exposed to a "care lottery". It also called for a ban on tobacco advertising, promotion and coverage of tohacco-sponsored events on

health spokeswoman, and Simon Hughes of the Liberal

Democrats. Ms Harman indicated that a Labour government might agree a degree of flexibility locally, but there would not be "hundreds of different pay scales" operated by different trusts all over the country.

trusts all over the country, Such a system inevitably led to "leap-frogging", "head-hunt-ing" and then nurses being forced to leave patients in order to negotiate their pay.

Mr Hughes said it was "scandal" that local pay had been introduced and that the Liberal Democrats supported a system of national minimum wages which they would not expect to he topped up by trusts In opposition to the RCN president's call for a separation of the ourses away from other

IN BRIEF Mystery of empty

vacht found adrift Two lifeboats and a Navy helicopter searched waters off the Cornish coast yesterday after a 32lt yacht was found adrift. The sails were up and there had been a fire on board, but there was no sign of the vachtsman who sailed from Hamble in the Solent on Saturday intending to be away for a week.

Tea fir

50m

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1.15

edather in Gr

The vessel was discovered abandoned 170 miles away, 10 miles south west of Lizard Point, and was towed to Newhn for detailed examination. Police said the name of the vessel and the yachtsman were being withheld until next of kin are informed.

Loyalist parade ban

The RUC have hanned a Protestant Orange Order parade from going through a Catholic flashpoint in Belfast. The decision to re-route Sunday's march away from the lower Ormeau Road follows fears of new violence in the area. Several officers and civilians were hun in clashes when riot police blocked a lovalist Apprentice. Boys parade through the area on Easter Monday.

Mortar mayhem

A nine-year-old boy caused mayhem when he brought a live wartime mortar shell to school as a present for his teacher. An army bomh disposal squad was called to Kingsham County Primary School in Chichester, Sussex, after headmaster Nigel Coren saw the two-inch shell. The boy found it while walking in a nature reserve used as an army practice range during World War II.

Rave vicar shortlist Church officials at the Nine O'Clock Service, who sacked the "rave vicar" Chris Brain last year for sexually ahusing lemale members, are to interview five candidates to replace him. An advertisement in Church Times

brought applications from all over the world, although all those shortlisted are from the UK. Brain is believed to be in America trying to become a

Test match special The widow of Test match cricket commentator Brian Johnston is to sell hundreds of mementos of his 48 years at the microphone. Pauline Johnston will auction hundreds of ties. scorecards, programme notes, Wisdeo from 1946-1994, cartoons, books and prints. The sale in Mayis expected to raise £10,000 for the Brian Johnston Memorial Fund to develop

young cricketers. Buried body appeal

Police appealed for help to identify a man strangled to death and buried in Nine Acres Wood, oear Essendon, Hertfordshire. He is white, 5ft 11in. aged 25-55, with dark collar-length hair and a full dark beard, and prohably from Lon-don. Det Supt Bill Jackson urged anyone who suspects they may know the man to call him on 01707 336611.

Triple killer dies

A convicted triple killer has been found dead in his cell. An-drew Gentle, 58, from Glasgow, bad been serving two life sen-tences for murder and eight years for attempted murder at Greenock prison, Renfrewshire. In 1982 he was found guilty of stabbing a woman to death and then strangling his accomplice. He had previously been jailed for culpable homicide.

Green book row

The environmental pressure group Greenpeace pulled out of a major award ceremony because the sponsors are an oil company. The Greenpeace Book of Water was a leading contender for the £5,000 Conservation Book Prize which will be announced today. The prize money comes from BP through the charity Book Trust.

Molly Keane dies

The writer Molly Keane has died at her home in Co Waterford, aged 92. Her works included the novels Time After Time and Good Behaviour. which was short-listed for a Booker Prize in 1981, and filmed for television.

### Obituary, Page 14 THE INDEPENDENT ABROAD

.... Sch40 NTands .... FI5.00 Belgium .... EF/80 kaly ..... L4,500 Conanes ....Phs300 Madera ... Esc325 Cyprus .....C#1.20 Maits ..... 43 cents Denmark....Dkr18 Norway....Ntr20 hish Rep ......45p Portugal ... Esc325 France ..... Fr24 Spain .... Pcs300 Germany .... DM4.5 Swerien, .... Skr20 Greece . . . . Dr450 Switzerland . Sk4.00 Lunembourg ...LF80 USA ..... \$3.00

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BACK ISSUES Back essues of the Independent are available from: Historic Newspapers, telephone 0988 402455.

### while the Patients' Charter spread of infection". Patients cent publicity about killer hugs brought in their own bacteria stated that from April patients health workers, Mr Hughes said the NHS would he covered has highlighted." from outside and were also could expect to be given a bed by one review body. Infection control was a key subjected to micro-organisms in within two hours if admitted to

The manifesto said the num-

hospital bed was unacceptable,

would be saved.

### Shreeram faces ruin.

Sir Nicholas advised Cabinet

colm Rifkind, attacked EU governments for the "positive absurdity of banning British beef in the acknowledged absence of a threat to public liebealth reasons and when the health.

He steered clear of directly threatening retaliation in discussions with fellow ministers by agreed outcome which will in-

own case if it broke the law. of reprisal might he the only However, despite his warning, option left to Britain.

volve the lifting of the ban. That

is what ought to happen and it should happen in the near future. Of course, if it did not happen, inevitably other options would have to be looked at."

However, be took heart from sympathetic remarks made by both the EU Commission President, Jacques Santer, and the Italian Foreign minister, Su-sanna Agnelli, who chaired yesterday's talks in Luxembourg. Mr Santer said the Commission favoured an immediate removal of the ban on products conticular, medicines or pharma centicals. Mrs Agnelli urged foreign ministers to influence their governments to lake the Commission's lead.

Ministers are pinning their hopes on today's talks hetween Douglas Hogg, the Agriculture Minister, and Franz Fischler, the European Commissioner for Agriculture, to get the ban lift-ed. Mr Hogg will present plans for a selective cull of cattle in "the low tens of thousands".

A sick horse means

THE ORK in the suffocating heat and dust of Delhi'a allica mines is hard and ill-paid. Without his mule, there will be no employment for Shreeram, no food for his wife and children. And if we do not provide regular, free veterinary help his emaciated mule will probably survive only two or three years of crippling labour before its agonised collapse and early death.

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They depend on us - we depend on you

# Lyell warns against beef 'revenge

### COLIN BROWN and KATHERINE BUTLER

The Attorney General, Sir Nicholas Lyell, warned the Goverument yesterday that Britain would be on weak legal ground if it took retaliatory action against Europe over the ban on

colleagues that counter-measures would risk a legal chalministers were refusing to rule out taking action.

The Foreign Secretary, Mal-

lenge in the European Court of cussions with fellow ministers Justice and undermine Britain's but later hinted that some form

"I have no doubt that if it is

not satisfactorily resolved it would have wider implications for Britain's relations with the EU. No country could accept an indefinite comprehensive ban when it is not required for pub-Commission's own agriculture commissioner confirms that.

"We want to see a very ear-

taining beef derivatives - in par-

Catalogue of abuse in children's homes

eports of abuse as early 1979. Complaints ade throughout 1960s. quiry in 1995	1970s and 1980s	1983 to 1989	1973 - 1986	1980s and 1990s	1977 to 1982.	1000
900 11 1900					15/7 10 1362.	1970s and 1980s
least 67 children nused by ring of ledophiles working side and outside the nuncil	Up to 200, in seven homes abused by a paedophile ring with members thought to have been in positions of influence, 12 of abused children have since died	More than 150 youngsters isolated in bare room, for periods ranging from one to 84 days, known as pindown	Frank Beck abused more than 100 children in his care at three homes	Allegations of abuse in five children's homes. Claims that boys imposed "sexual initiation rights" on girls. Also allegations about private home for mentally handicapped	Boys at Monklands Children Hornes, aged between eight and 16, regularly abused. At least one victim attempted suicide	Children of all ages sbused at a number of homes (which cannot be named for legal reasons)
counci staff named in becaused White report if only one convicted of use. Received 3 month spended prison nience	50 stall disciplined, 13 convictions. As many as 300 names believed given to CPS. Stephen Nortis, head of Cartrefle home near Wrasham jailed for 10 years.	None. Two deputy directors of social services and three social workers involved were sacked	Beck given five life sentences in 1991. He died in prison in 1994	None.	3Peter Harley, 50., jailed after admitting 16 charges of sexually abusing boys	Ongoing.
anagement. Warned at abusers who were	14 reports, including 12 carried out internally, have never been published. Definitive 300-page report by three childcare experts remains unpublished	Written by Alfan Levy, OC, and Barbera Kahen, then chairman of NCH, published in 1991. Called pindown a "fundamental abuse of human rights" and advocated better trained staff	Two independent reports published in 1993. Police and social services criticised. Officers accused of incompetence and prejudice in dealing with Beck.	one into private mental home; owner	Valerie Stacey said victims were systematically abused	Ongoing.
e de la constant de l	dophiles working de and outside the notil council staff named in sequent White report only one convicted of se. Received 3 month pended prison tence aducted by lan White, ardshire's director of iel Services, Croical of council's imadequate agement. Warmed abusers who were stopped might be king elsewhere	de and outside the incil paedophile nng with members thought to have been in positions of influence. 12 of abused children have since died council staff named in sequent White report convicted of se. Received 3 month pended prison tence and ucted by lan White, ardshire's director of iel Services. Critical of council's inadequate agarment. 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PAGE  Mr Hague has told the five to work with the council, but is

Wales, Rhodri Morgan, will also press Mr Hague to accept the main recommendation of the Jillings report that there should he a public judicial

Government and council offi-

cials are to study the case of a

former children's home man-

hearing 17 indecency charges

involving boys aged six to six-

against boys.

ager jailed yesterday for 15 how such a man came be in

years for a catalogue of ahuse charge of a children's home -

had admitted at a previous of abuse. Those running homes

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Clwyd in local government on the levels of co-operation the report, reorganisation at the end of last they get, and about whether or One page month to urgently look at pro- not they are covered by insurducing a publishable copy of the ance indemnity.

and why the children were un-

ly indeed" the selection of those

ensure victims could get speedy

Peter Harley. 50, of Cardiff. ahle to get help over the years ies and the council responsible

At the High Court in Glas-gow the judge, Lord Weir, said the case raised the questions of Merkland home in Moffat,

should examine "very careful-ly indeed" the selection of those
The Scottish Office said last

Dumfriesshire, where Harley

was the officer in charge. The

home closed down in the Eight-

for it has been replaced by Dum-

night that it would study Lord

One page says: "Our inves-

views known."

tigation was limited by a number of constraining factors. It The report claims that the was unclear to what extent ma-

witness statements. Some former members of staff and members of staff representing other organisations declined to meet with the in-The panel is likely to agree team did not get all the co-op- terial held by the North Wales dependent panel."

Home manager jailed for attacks on boys Social services director Kei-

lot of change has occurred since this case. A number of imth Makin said: "I can only say provements have taken place for that at this distance in time, it selection of staff, and also for is not possible to understand the allowing children to make their process by which Peter Harley was recruited. "Today we rou-Dumfries and Galloway countinely make police checks and cil said it "deeply regretted" the have a much more rigorous apevents which gave rise to the proach to staff recruitment and case, and it would continue to supervision with regular qualistudy the circumstances to see if ty checks and inspections with-Weir's remarks, but added: "A there were lessons to be learnt.

in all our residential homes,"

Risk of

### Martini advert stirs fresh trouble

MARIANNE MACDONALD Media Correspondent

The makers of the "cosmetic surgery" advertisement for Martini have run into another row over the controversial cam-

Last month the television advertisements, featuring people who had cosmetic surgery to be attractive enough to "drink the beautiful drink", were attacked by a plastic surgeon as offensive to disfigured chil-

Now the drinks maker faces a claim that one of the advertisements was copied from Face Facts, an award-winning short film shown three times on Channel 4 in the last three

The allegation comes from Linda Hughes, 31, a lecturer at Barnet College, north London, who made Face Facts in the form of a spoof advertisement for "Beauty Inc", a fictitious cos-

metics company.
The film, which won a Gold Plaque at the Chicago Interna-tional Film Festival, features an unattractive man selling the message that you can be happy only if you are cosmetically

ACE: Shortlist

Term special

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Like one Martini advertisement, her film shows a patient about to undergo surgery, then covered in bandages but fully dressed.

It concludes with the triumphant slogan: "Together we can make the whole world beautiful." Martini's slogan was "With Martini, we can make Britain a more beautiful place."

Ms Hughes said from her London home yesterday: "If the similarity was coincidental, there were quite a lot of coincidences - the subject matter, narrator and the final line.

"My fitms last went out on Channel 4 in May and Sep-tember last year, while the Martini ad was launched last

Ms Hughes was so angered by the apparent connection that she asked a friend to do an "interview" with Alan Young, the copywriter at Howell Henry Chaldecott Lury who came up with the idea, inspired in her case by a promotional staff video for Sainsbury's, "It's fair tn say he was quite vague," she said. "My friend said, 'It's quite a striking ad, what made you think of it? and he replied,

'That's the eternal question.' After consulting a lawyer, she then wrote to Westbay, the Southampton-based company which distributes Martini in the UK. But it refuses to accept any connection.

Christopher Mcredith, marketing controller for Martini, wrote back: "Having checked with our advertising agency I have to advise you that the Martini advertising of which you complain was developed without anyone involved baving seen your film.

"I regret ) am unable to discern any real connection between your film and the Martini advertising, beyond the fact that both explore (in a satirical fashion) the general theme of people being made physically ore attractive.

Ms Hughes is fighting back, although not through the courts. She has put her film on the Internet, together with the interview with Mr Young.

"I know advertising has got to take ideas from things which are going on but I didn't make a lot of money from my film, whereas they've spent £5m." Her film can be viewed on

### Two hundred security guards and £100m couldn't stop a mallard doing nature's work



Safety zone: The mallard's nest (above) containing 11 eggs (below) cordoned off on the site of the Newbury bypass

Photograph: John Voos

The bulldozers line the horizon, the contractors are preparing for a hard day's graft, writes Louise Jury.

And in the middle of the path of the Newbury bypass in Berkshire, a mallard is sitting upon r 11 new eggs.

The human protesters have been forced to depart after a three-month hattle, leaving the Thames Valley police to complain of the £2.6m cost of the eviction programme.

However, as a Friends of the Earth spokesman said last night: "They may have got rid of the protesters but will find it harder to evict the wildlife. It shows the robustness of nature."

**NICHOLAS SCHOON** 

tem in jeopardy.

**Environment Correspondent** 

In a major victory for conser-

vationists, one of the world's

largest multinationals is to boy-

cott the industrial fishing which

is putting the North Sea ecosys-

Unilever yesterday an-nounced that within a year it

would stop using all oils derived

from industrial fishing in Euro-

pean waters. This fishery catch-

es more than 1 million tonnes of

small fish at the base of the food

chain each year and is unregu-

lated by the European Union's

The Anglo Dutch conglom-

Common Fisheries Policy.

MARIANNE MACDONALD

One of the key arguments of the environmental protesters during their campaign has been the potential damage to wildlife in the area.

Although mallards are not a rare species, elsewhere on the proposed route badgers, rare snails and a range of birds, including dunnocks, wrens, lap-wings and skylarks, have made their mark.

The mallard pictured above has been made safe, cordoned off with orange tape, while she

tends her nest. "It will be good if they keep on getting delays because they find wildlife there," the Friends More than 200 security

erate, which owns the Bird's Eye

brand, said it now accepted this

catch of sprat, whiting, pout and

sandeels was unsustainable and

destructive. Unilever uses

100,000 tonnes of fish oil a

year, a quarter of the total

made from this catch in Euro-

pean waters, for products as di-

verse as cosmetics, cakes and

These small fish are an im-

portant food source for sea

birds, seals and porpoises, and

also for larger fish species which

are heavily preved on by Europe's fishing fleets.

Scientists agree that cod and

haddock have been overfished

for years in the North Sea, and

biscuits and hair conditioner.

guards at a time have been employed to guard the site of the £101m bypass.

Work began at the beginning of January on the first stage, which involved clearing the site and preparing it for construc-Last week, Charles Pollard,

Chief Constable of Thames Valley, criticised a hard-core of protesters for forcing up the bill for handling the dispute by their actions.

He appealed to ordinary middle-class protesters to dissociate themselves from the allegedly violent actions of what he described as more militant

Unilever spurns industrial fishing

there is a risk of the stocks col-

lapsing. Denmark, Norway and

Iceland account for the great

majority of industrial fishing off

Europe, with Britain trailing in

Unifever's announcement

came as European Union fish-

eries ministers met in Brussels

vesterday to discuss fish quotas.

Tony Baldry, also launched a

campaign to return Britain's

fishing waters to the United Kingdom fleet.

Fisheries Policy could regain

credibility only if it clamped

down on "quota-hoppers" who

plunder another nation's EU

'Mail' buys 20% of ITN in forced sale

He warned that the Common

Britain's fisheries minister,

fourth place.

Letters, page 16



### spinal injuries highest in rugby

JOJO MOYES

The number of serious spinal ininries caused by rugby is proportionally higher than any

other organised sport, according to the first national figures.
Of 443 reported spinal injuries between 1985 and January 1996, 79 (18 per cent) took place on the rugby pitch. Of these cases, 70 per cent resulted in severe paralysis. Last week, Ben Smoldon,

21, successfully sued a referee after he was left paralysed following the collapse of a scrum. The new figures reveal that nearly half of all serious rugby injuries occurred in players under 26 and nearly a quarter resulted in the patient needing a ventilator to breathe.

Compiled from spinal injury units across the country, they show that the highest figure for injury was "diving and swim-ming" (43 per cent). But this figure is disproportionate as it largely comprises people who have dived into shallow water, mostly while on holiday abroad. After rugby, the next most dangerous sport was horse rid-

ing with 12 per cent of injuries. These figures reiterate those compiled last year by the Trevor Jones Tetraplegic Trust (now Regain) which showed that of 98 cases where sports people suffered serious spinal injury, 53 were rugby players, followed by 20 divers and swimmers.

According to Anne Savage, a retired GP who has been researching the figures, rugby injuries are high because it is not considered "dangerous" and the people who play it are of-ten unfit or not fully grown.

She said in younger players there was often a discrepancy between muscular development and bone development. "You can look well muscled at 16/17 but bones will not have achieved maturity, nor will the neuro-She added that there were

few serious injuries in top-levin regular training, and their games were well supervised. A 1994 paper in the journal Sports Exercise and Injury suggested there was a "serious under-reporting" of spinal injuries to the rugby union authorities, adding that most players had no idea of the risks of the game.

The national figures are as yet incomplete, although they are thought to be proportionally correct. But some consultants believe the true figure is much higher, due to the lack of a nationwide scheme of registration.

One doctor said he had walked round a ward and spoken to three patients who had suffered spinal injuries from rugby, before being told that none were registered as such.

"There is a problem that not all spinal injuries go to spinal injury units," said Dr Savage. Patients then became "invisible". Don Hall, sports injuries administrator for the Rugby Foothall Union, said it took its responsibility to players very seriously. The RFU, although making moves to increase safety has repeatedly stressed that it is less dangerous than other

"dangerous" sports.

But according to Jon Nicholl, acting director of the Medical Care Research Unit at the University of Sheffield, while dangerous sports such as rock-climbing were highest of all, the relatively tiny numbers of people who took part made

them statistically insignificant. But he added that as in Ben Smoldon's case, it was the way the game was played that counted. "If it's played in a very tough and competitive way then the risks are greatly increased."

### Observation tower offers a global perspective

**LOUISE JURY** 

The public could be given the opportunity to get a glimpse of deserts, savannah or rainforests several thousand miles away without having to travel further than London.

Under a scheme conceived by Peter Head, a British engineer - one of several Millennium projects to be unveiled this week - members of the public could walk into a specially devised centre in the capital to link up via satellite with other parts of the world.

A consortium of businesses is behind the £92m plan for a communications and observatory tower, called Globorama, which would be built next to the agreed sight of the Millennium exhibition in Greenwich, southeast London.

The 200m high tower, which is expected to attract 2.4 million visitors by 2000, would give panoramic views of London. But, more significantly, through satellite technology, it would provide viewing platforms offering the chance to interact with major cities and natural environments "live" across the of submissions this week.



The £92m Globorama, which

world. The Royal Geographical Society, which is backing the project, hopes to gain significantly through the construction of an international network of environmental research programmes linked to the project.

But the scheme is dependent on part-funding from the Mil-lennium Commission, which is due to announce its "long-list"



would be built in Greenwich

The Daily Mail has bought a 20 per cent stake in ITN, maker of TTV's News At Ten, it was announced yesterday.
In a joint statement, Grana-

da and Carlton Communications said they had each sold a 10 per cent bolding in the com-pany to the Daily Mail and Gen-Trust (DMGT) for a combined total of £20.4m. The move was forced upon them by

which limited to 20 per cent individual shareholdings in the news provider which services ITV, Channel 4 and the soon-

to-be launched Channel 5. The ITV companies said they were disappointed at having to sell their investments but were "delighted to be selling their shares to another professional

news organisation\* ITN will now be jointly owned by Carlton (20 per cent), Granada (20 per cent), DMGT

the 1990 Broadcasting Act. (20 per cent), Reuter (18 per cent), Anglia TV and Scottish TV (5 per cent each). The remaining 12 per cent will be owned by a Carlton/Granada joint venture company, set up

to hold their excess shares. The reduction of Carlton and Granada's ITN stakes has been a long-running saga. The deadline for their sale was originally 31 December 1994, but was later extended by 12 months. As the second December deadline loomed, Cariton and Granada

proposed to the Independent Television Commission that they each put their excess 16 per cent of ITN shares into a dead-

fish catch allocation - with the

hlessing of Brussels. The move

follows the Government's legal

defeat at the hands of the Span-

ish trawler fleet. The Euro-

that one country cannot stop

trawlers from another member

state sharing its quota.

ean Court of Justice has ruled

Now claims worth about

£30m are in the pipeline from

Spanish boat owners who were

excluded from UK waters after

registering in British ports to

qualify for British fish quotas.

tem must change, adding: "Al-

locations of national quotas should be for the benefit of fish-

ing communities in the member

Mr Baldry said that the sys-

locked joint venture company. In December this took place. with neither company able to vote on the shares, thus avoiding the need to sell them cheap to meet the deadline. It was from these shares that the DMGT sale was made.

Last year ITN had a turnover of £89m and made a £15.3m profit in the year to last December.

The DMGT said that the purchase, which will be paid for in cash, was made through its Harmsworth Broadcasting Division. Sir David English, who chairs the division, will represent the trust on the ITN

> "I am delighted to announce our purchase of this shareholding in ITN. News is our business and we look forward to developing a valuable partnership with ITN and its shareholders," Sir David said.

state concerned - not for fish-

ermen from another country.

But he ruled out any British

pull-out from the Common

Fisheries Policy as demanded by

some ministers and trawler-

men in the wake of the court-

room defeat. "Withdrawal from

the CFP is a non-starter but it

is crucial that there are re-

forms to the way it works. Pol-

icy-makers must listen more

carefully to what fishermen

themselves are saying," he said. He also unveiled plans for

setting up regional committees

to consider the management of

EU fisheries. They would cov-

er areas like the Battic, North

Sea and English Channel.



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Class conflict: Politicians condemn action over pupil of 13 as scheme to raise standards fails

### Teachers under fire for strike over 'violent' boy

FRAN ABRAMS Education Correspondent

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<u> 1857 - 1937</u>9 **228**€

Teachers who have voted to go un strike in a dispute over a disruptive 13-year-old boy were criticised by politicians from

both maio partics vesterday. Appeals for staff at Glaisdale School, in Nottingham, to remain at their positions came from Gillian Shephard, the Seeretary of State for Education, and a spokesman for the Labour Party.

Twenty of the school's 38 teachers will go on all-out strike from Friday if agreement cannot be reached at a meeting to-day between Nottinghamshire County Council, the school's head teacher and the boy's family. The rest of the staff may also decide to refuse to teach

the boy.

Richard Wilding was permaneotly excluded from the school in February after allegedly being involved in 30 incidents of violence and disruption since last September.

The decision was supported by the county council but was overturned by an independent appeals panel,

Staff at the school objected to his return to school, saying he had both learning difficulties and emotional problems and that he should be in a special unit. He is now being taught separately from other pupils by a supply teacher.

blamed the local authority for hard that striking in these cirthe dispute with members of the National Association of Schoolmasters Union of Women Tea-chers (NASUWT).

Speaking at a local election press conference, she said the Government intended to introduce legislation to reduce



Richard Wilding: Given lessons on his own

What is Labour-cootrolled Nottinghamshire doing about this matter? It does seem clear that the right place for this child has not yet been found," she said. "It is the duty of the LEA to find appropriate education for that child."

It was never right for teachers to strike and to harm children's education, she added. Labour's deputy leader, John Yesterday, Mrs Shephard Prescott, agreed with Mrs Shepcumstances was wrong, but he blamed government legislation and accused the Secretary of State of using the issue as a "political pawn" during local elections.

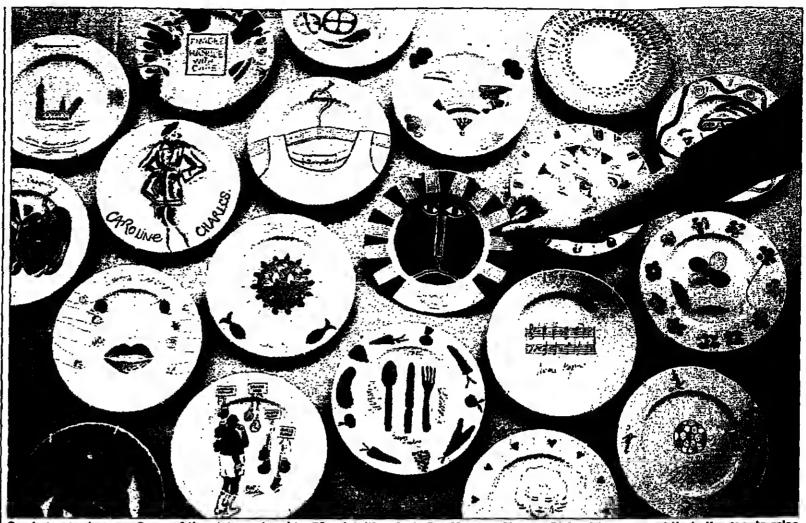
"I'm more concerned about the parents involved in this and the children who are worried about the extent of violence in their schools and I think the Nottingham authority should be given all the power to deal with it. Unfortunately Mrs Shephard's legislation makes it very difficult for them to deal with " he said

The boy's mother, Rita Wilding, has said she is considering legal action. "I think it is disgusting to strike over my son. It has all been blown up out of proportion.

"Richard is not as bad as they make out, and if he is given the right support he can cope with mainstream schooling. There are children far worse than

Richard in Glaisdale," she said. The NASUWT has been involved in a growing number of cases in which staff have refused to teach a difficult child. There were 52 such cases last year and about six each month this year, but strikes are rarer.

In 1991, staff at the Bishop of Llandaff school in South Glamorgan threatened to strike after three boys who had sexually assaulted a girl were returned to school, but their | shot once in the back of the



Serving a good cause: Some of the plates painted by 78 celebrities, including Maureen Lipman, Richard Branson and Kevin Keegan, to raise money for arthritis victims. The plates will be auctioned at the Art Connoisseur's Gallery, central London, on Thursday

Photograph: Nick Turpin

### Appeal told of murder case 'conjecture'

The girlfriend of a businessman convicted of murdering her parents yesterday said she was certain his appeal would succeed. Cheryl Tooze, 36, spoke of her belief in Jonathan Jones's innocence outside the Court of Appeal after three judges were told that his conviction was based on "suspicion, speculation

Harry Tooze, 64, and his wife, Megan, 67, were each

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tions, divisions and unit conversions.

and conjecture".

head with a shotgun at their farm at Llanharry, Mid Glamorgan. Miss Tooze said: "I have always said that Jonathan is innocent from the very beginning. This will be demonstrated over the oext few days by his QC, because there was absolutely no evidence to convict him. Sometimes I feel frustrated and helpless and I wish there was more I could do because my real fight begins when he is released and a 10-2 majority verdict after the

find my parents' real killers."

John Rees QC, representing Jones, told the appeal judges that the murder method would have resulted in the killer being covered in blood and brain tissue but there was never any forensic evidence at the Newport Crown Court trial in April last year that would link Jones with the crime. Jones, 36, of Orpington, Kent. was convicted on the investigation begins again to prosecution claimed he paid a

surprise visit to the farm in July 1993, and had tea with the couple hefore shooting them. Mr Rees said it was never

proved Jones was anywhere near the farmhouse at the time of the killings and he would be bringing fresh evidence to back his claim that he was looking for an office in Orpingtoo for Miss Tooze. His own alibi, that he spoke to lift engineers in Orpkillings, was never disproved.

elaimed at the trial that Jones's motive was money, said Mr Rees. But this was not developed and was eveotually dropped. In his summing-up to the jury, Mr Justice Rougier revived the financial motive and in doing so misdirected the jury, said Mr Rees.

The appeal being heard by Lord Justice Rose, Mr Justice ington during the day of the Dyson and Mr Justice Gage. was adjourned to today.

### £50m on appraisal 'but it is a failure'

**GOUL HINGUL** Education Editor

More than £50m spent on teacher appraisal has failed to raise standards in schools, according to an inspectors' report published yesterday. Chris Woodhead, the Chief Inspector of Schools, has called for a closer link between teaeher performance and pay.

The inspectors' report, based on visits to more than 300 schools, says that only four of those linked pay with appraisal. It points out that in only 20 per cent of schools is there any sign that appraisal, introduced five years ago by the Government,

improves teaching.
Mr Woodhead's Office for Standards in Education is reviewing teacher appraisal with the Teacher Training Agency and their recommendations will be sent to Gillian Shephard, the Secretary of State for Education.

At present, government guidance says that there should be no automatic link between appraisal and promotion and pay but that heads and governors may legitimately take it into account. Under existing rules agreed by teacher unions, appraisal reports cannot be used to sack a teacher. Mr Woodhead believes both principles should he re-examined.

The report argues that appraisal needs to focus more sharply on raising standards and should be less secretive. One teacher described in the report refused to let an appraisal

Should he get a bonus? Chris Woodhead (salary £82,000), Chief Inspector of Schools, and enthusiast for performance related pay, will be appraised on Friday by Michael Bichard, permanent secretary at the Department for Ed-ucation and Employment. Should he get a bonus?

Sir Rhodes Boyson, tormer ed-ucation minister: "He'a excellent. Whether you agree with him or not :... he is good news. I would definitely give him an alpha."

Professor Ted Wrage, of Exeter University's department of educaion: His bonus should be minus £50,000 in view of the maynem he has caused in education and the lack of substance to the political stant he puts on things."

Shella Lawlor, director of the think-tank Politeis: 1'm not sure whether public servents should get bonuses. But he should be commended to the sties. He is one of the first heads of inspection to be detached from schools ... outstanding in being so impartial."

Nigel de Gruchy, general secre-tary of the NASUWI: Withold the bonus but no sanctions ... he should stop continually raising the subject of the 4 per cent of in-competent teachers knowing it will be typed up by the media. report be used as a reason for

in-service training.
Mr Woodhead said: "That is nonsensical ... The culture within education at present is not one which welcomes the no-

tioo of performance pay." He

said that the confidentiality surrounding appraisal was excessive. "If appraisal is to have the impact it should, then it must be open to a wider range of uses than at present."

Excellent and outstanding teachers should be identified and their performance should be rewarded. Those who were in difficulties should be offered support but action must be taken if they did not improve.

Mr Woodhead, who earns £82,000 a year, said he personally supported performance related pay, and was himself due to be appraised under the Civil Service scheme on Friday.

Appraisal involves interviews and observation by senior colleagues followed by the setting of targets for action. All teachers are supposed to have been appraised by this year but the reduction of special government grants for the programme has led to some delays, the report says. Nearly half the schools reported difficulties in completing

their appraisal programmes.

David Blunkett, Labour's education spokesman, said: "Chris Woodhead has admitted that the Government has sidelined appraisal. Support for the scheme has been dropped by ministers."

Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters/ Union of Women Teachers, said his union would be prepared to look at linking pay with teaching quality provided the general level of pay was high.

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Absolute harmomy in steel marks the new case design of BREITLING'S high-performance MONTBRILLANT mechanical chronograph, equipped today with the new NAVITIMER bracelet to form an instrument watch inspired by the days when the original sliderule-equipped NAVITIMER first took to the air.



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The U.S. Navy's Top Gun air-combat school, the Blue Angels. the R.A.F's Red Arrows, the Patrouille de France, astronaut Scott Carpenter all aeronautics legends to whom BRETTLING is proud to dedicate its very limited-edition instruments, available exclusively from the most

This newest version of the AEROSPACE multifunction electronic chronograph provides an audible indication of the hours and minutes simply by pressing on the crown.



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CROSSWIND

Along with its exceptionally robust size, BREITLING's new CROSSWIND mechanical chronograph features a markedly more classic design. The stylish "upmarket" layout of its dial confirms the total refinement of an impeccably engineered construction.



At the end of this year, when very high-altitude winds will have stabilized, the BREITLING ORBITER will head for the skies. Crewed by Bertrand Piccard and Wim Verstraeten, this specially designed balloon will rise into the stratosphere to attempt the first non-stop, round-the-world flight - the last of the great aeronautics adventures, crowning 213 years of dreams and achieve-

### ACADEMY'S Sukhoi 31, Cap 232 and Extra 300 ments by the world's lighter-than-air pioneers. aircraft through their paces.

### DAILY POEM

**Grandfather in Green** 

By George Szirtes

My grandfather, the Budapest shoemaker wrote plays in his spare time, and then he died. His body became a pebble on a beach of softness across which swept the pale green tide.

Pale green. I think, would suit him as a tint under his eye, or thinly flexed across the hooked bridge of his nose. His sour complexion was cooking apples, a summary of loss,

each a pucker in the flesh. His waistcoat was grey as clouds, a pale green handkerchief blossoming from the pocket. Even his tongue would sit in his mouth, soft and green as a leaf.

And so he returned to nature after all, the pale green gall within him in the shut cavern of his stomach, and the green smell of gas still lingering in the hut.

George Szirtes was born in 1948 in Hungary and came to England with his family following the uprising in Budapest in 1956. He has published seven poetry books and is renowned both as a translator from Hungarian and as a poet in the English language. OUP have recently published his Selected Poems 1976-1996. This is distinctive and tangy verse, rich in Slavie melancholy and the burden of history.

### Gas death landlord escapes jail

A landlord was yesterday given an 18-month suspended sentence after admitting the manslaughter of a terrant who died of carbon monoxide poisoning from a faulty gas fire. Thomas Beedie, of Cottingham, Hull, admitted killing Tracey Murphy, 19, found dead in her flat in Pearson Park, Hull, in 1993. He changed his plea on Friday after more than two days of legal argument in Sheffield Crown Court

In 1994 the Health and Safety Executive prosecuted Beedle, who was convicted of failing to maintain the fire in Ms Murphy's room and he and his wife were each fined £1,500. In July 1994 he was prosecuted by Hull City Council and found guilty of 15 offences under the Housing Regulations Act. He received a two-year conditional discharge.

At the inquest on Ms Murphy in September 1994, a jury ruled she had been unlawfully killed.

PROFESSIONALS

# You wouldn't believe what some people don't do to animals.

They don't feed them. They don't water them. They don't brush them.

They don't delouse them. They don't de-flea them.

They don't bath them. They don't worm them.

They don't walk

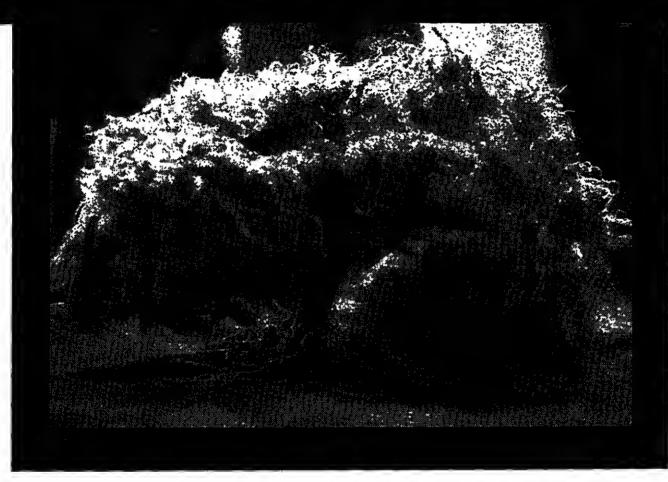
them. They don't take them to the vet.

They don't train them. They don't innoculate them. They don't spay them. They don't neuter them.

They don't groom them. They don't comb them. They don't clip their nails. They don't play with them.

They don't exercise them. They don't de-tangle their fur. They don't clean their paws. They don't supervise them.

They don't buy them leads. They don't buy them collars. They don't buy them baskets.



They don't buy them treats. They don't buy them food. They don't buy them feeding bowls.

They don't reward them. They don't provide them with a balanced diet. They don't control them. They don't check the state of their health.

They don't provide any bedding. They don't change their bedding.

They don't check their teeth. They don't clean their teeth. They don't pay them any attention.

They don't care for them.

They don't housetrain them. They don't clip their coat.

They don't get insurance for them. They don't stroke them.

They don't clean up their urine. They don't clean up their faeces. They don't

clean up their vomit.

They don't clean their ears. They don't clean their eyes. They don't buy them toys.

They don't detect injuries. They don't detect disease.

They don't treat injuries. They don't treat disease.

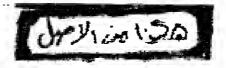
They don't provide any shelter for them.

They don't provide any warmth for them.

If you're not prepared to do all of the above, please don't do one more thing: don't give a home to a pet.

Neglect is cruelty.

THE AIMS OF THE RSPCA ARE TO PREVENT CRUELTY AND PROMOTE KINDNESS TO ANIMALS.



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### Car was 'lethal weapon' for schizophrenic

NICHOLAS TIMMINS Public Policy Editor

Clarification over the rights and duties of doctors to report seriously mentally ill patients to the driving licence authority is to be sought after a paranoid schizophrenic killed a young mother in a car in a London car

An inquiry published yes-terday into the case of Nilesh Gadher, 37, a paranoid schizophrenic with a history of vio-lence and of failing to take his medication, lists a catalogue of errors in his care. They culmi-



Sanita Kaura: Killed by Gadher driving in car park

nated in him killing Sanita Kaura, 27, the mother of a young haby, when he struck her while driving at up to 45 mph in the car park. He was judged unfit to stand trial.

He had been in hospital four times since 1984 but was discharged to the community in March 1994 under a plan which the inquiry says was "doomed to fail" and "naive at best". A consultant psychiatrist misunderstood the law and did not the agency. A spokeswoman know that Gadher could be desaid there was a reluctance to in-

tained because of fears over his mental health. troduce compulsion because the issue of patient confidentiality

was "a very sensitive area".

of services. More cash has been

provided - but despite "strenu-ous efforts" the trust has been

unable to appoint an addition-

al consultant despite funds be-

His condition deteriorated, he left a rehabilitation work pro-ject, he was not taking his medication and he set out to work as a mini-cab driver. But despite a warning six months before from his father and brother that he could kill himself or someone else, and despite complaints from neighbours over his behaviour and evident deterioration, a social worker decided Gadher did not meet the criteria for compulsory treatment.

But the inquiry said it was also concerned that Gadher was able to buy and drive a car, possibly with fare-paying pas-sengers in it, while in his psy-chotic state. "The fact of the matter is that a car is every bit as lethal a weapon in the wrong hands at the wrong time as a firearm," the inquiry chaired by Judge Main said.

A patient admitted to hospi tal with a psychosis has a duty to inform the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency, which can revoke the licence, and should be advised by doctors not to drive. But there is nothing in law to pre-vent someone driving against ad-vice the inquiry said, although it "may be appropriate" for the doctor to tell the DVLA. Ealing, Hammersmith and

Hounslow Health Authority, which with Ealing Council commissioned the report, said how-ever there were issues over patient confidentiality in doctors reporting patients. We will be asking the departments of health and transport to clarify the ethics and law in this area and to change to the law if nec-

essary," a spokesman said. The DVLA said there was no legal requirement on doctors to tell them if a patient was considered too ill to drive, although some doctors did in fact contact

### The inquiry concluded that the magnitude of the tragedy was not predictable. But it was predictable that Gadher would stop taking his medication and that if unwell he might become violent. It might have been prevented if he had been re-admitted hospital or prevented from driving. At the time consultants and nurses faced excessive workloads and an inadequate range

The golden age of steam lives on: Martin Prior working on a signal box in his garden in Sutton St Nichnlas, Hereford and Worcester, where he Photograph: Roh Stratton designs, makes and sells life-size replicas of steam-age railway buildings and engines

### 'Road-rage' victim rejects publicity

A man heaten over the head with a metal bar because he did in his car. The injured man was

Liverpool and was crossing a road at about 6pm on Friday when a newish looking black Vauxhall Cavalier slowed to let him cross. Its driver waved him on hut when he was almost across he felt a heavy blow to

He turned to see the driver, a 6ft tall skinhead in his 20s, attacking him with a 3ft long scaffolding har. He struck him across the right side of his head knocking him to the ground. The driver told him: "Next

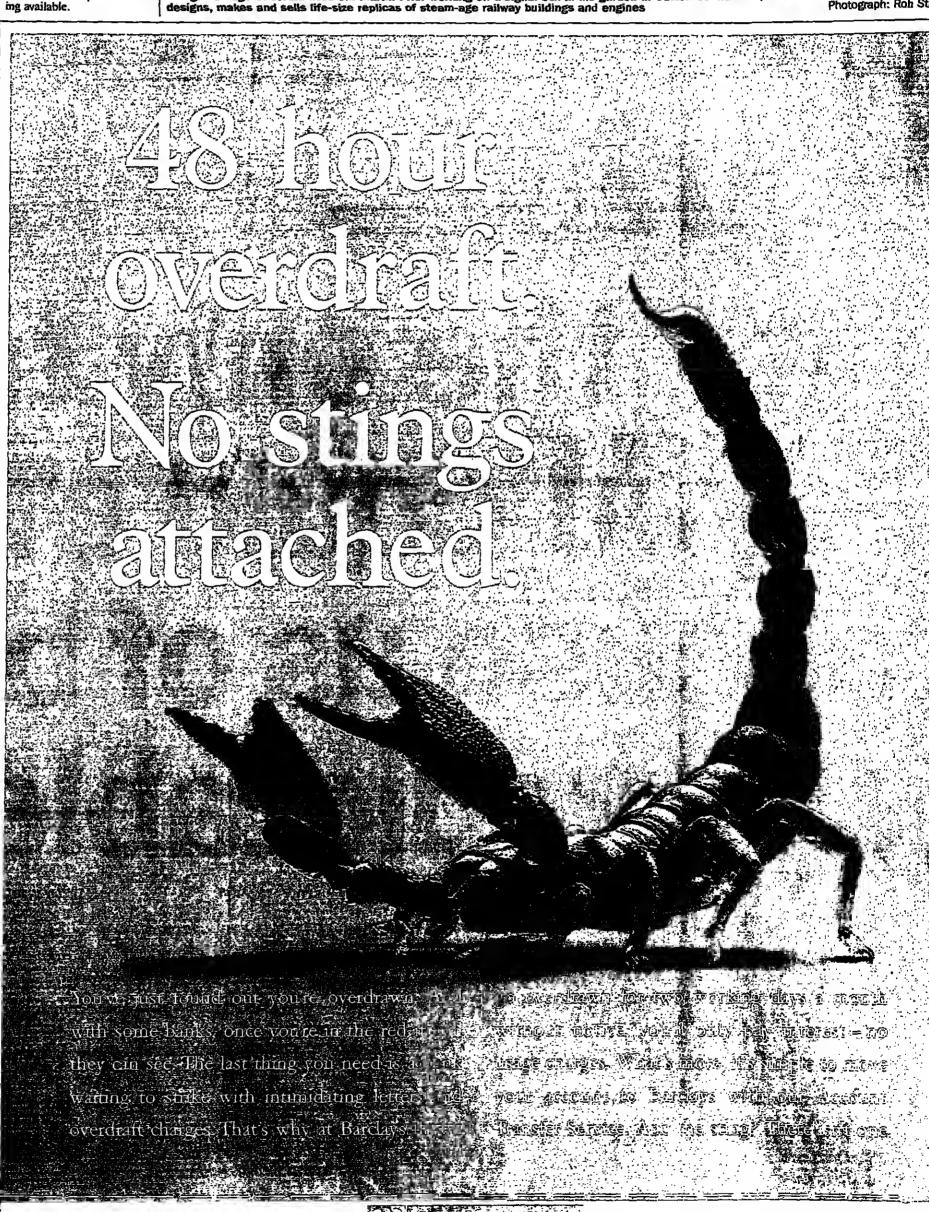
with a metal bar because he did not say thank you to a driver is withholding his identity hecause he did not want to frighten his three young children.

The 31-year-old man, from Norris Green, Liverpool, faces further surgery as he still cannot see in his right eye but doctors hope he will regain his sight. The man had dropped his children at a relative's home in Liverpool and was crossing a fin his car. The injured man was found staggering along the road taken to the Royal Liverpool hospital. He suffered three fractures above his right eye socket and had bone removed. A police spokesman said yesterday that the pedestrian could not see at present because of the injury, hut medical staff are hopeful that he will get sight back in the eye.

He does not want his name

"He does not want his name released. He said he didn't want his children to know he has cause he didn't want to put fcar in them," the spokesman added.

"It is a shame when people can't just cross the road to go to a chip shop without being at-tacked like this. Road rage is quite new and we have had no similar incidents in the area but this is particularly shocking when you consider that it was unprovoked."



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# It's the only time you could ever accuse us of being predictable.

On Sunday, ITN won the BAFTA award for News Coverage in 1995.

(Two out of the four nominations were for ITN reports: News at Ten and Channel 4 News).

The winning coverage in question was Channel 4 News' reports on war crimes in former Yugoslavia.



The British Academy Award is based on a design by Mitzi Cunlife.

It involved in-depth investigative journalism, reporting on the Serb massacres in Srebrenica, and a harrowing interview with a survivor.

This is the ninth time in ten years that we've won the award itself.

So in fact, we are predictable.

But only because we work very hard at it.

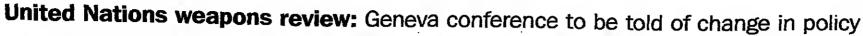
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### Britain to support ban on land-mines

CHRISTOPHER BELLAMY Defence Correspondent

Britain is today expected to announce a change in its policy on anti-personnel landmines, and to tell the United Nations Weapons Convention Review Conference which opened in Geneva yesterday that it will support a world-wide han on their manufacture, export and use.

The move follows indications that senior members of the United States military favour a iotal ban, and studies by the Red Cross and other independent organisations which cast doubt on the military effectiveness of anti-personnel mines

The first session of the review conference in September 1995 banned the use and transfer of laser weapons specifically de-signed to blind people - the first time that a specific new kind of weapon had been banned since 1868. It failed to reach a decision on anti-personnel mines.

An estimated 100 million anti-personnel mines are scattered across the world, and they cause an estimated 20,000 casualties a year, mostly to farmers, other civilians and children. They also kill livestock. Experts estimate the plague of anti-personnel land-mines is now hindering development and reconstruction in more than 35 countries. There are an estimated 4 million mines in Bosnia, but they have taken their heaviest toll in Cambodia. In both cases the conflicts in which they were laid are now

over but their scourge remains. Until now the British government has supported the view that anti-personnel mines remain a legitimate weapon of war. They er anti-tank mines against at-

tempts to clear them. Whereas anti-tank mines are fairly easy to detect and require a heavy weight to set them off, anti-personnel mines are often made from plastic and other undetectable materials. They are not designed to fall outright, but to inflict horrible wounds, especially to the legs and genitals, which, besides crippling the victims, overload the medical services.

However, "dual-use" mines, which can destroy vehicles and maim and kill, are increasingly available. The Red Cross is opposing the definition of unti-personnel mines as those "primarity designed" to maim or kill people, as this could render any fulure agreement ambiguous. It believes all mines should be detectable and that "anti-handling ilevices" - booby traps - should be prohibited.

Britain recently faced isolation among the more developed countries following a statement by the Chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff, General John Shalikashvili, that he was "inclined to eliminate all antipersonnel land-mines". General Norman Schwarzkopf, who commanded the victorious Allied forces in the 1991 Gulf war, also signed an open letter to President Bill Clinton supporting a total han. Germany recently renounced anti-personnel mines as a weapon it would use in war.

British diplomatic sources yesterday stressed that the reluctance to sign up to a total ban was due to doubts about whether it would work. The countries which still export anti-personnel land-mines - China, India and Pakistan - have not signed up to any restrictions, Russia has sign a three-year moratorium on anti-personnel mines which do were intended to protect the larg- not destrey themselves after a

### Bus firm wins rail of Church franchise

**CHRISTIAN WOLMAR** Transport Correspondent

The sixth privatised rail fran-

chise, the InterCity services out of St Pancras, was yesterday awarded to National Express. the hus company which has already won the right to run the Gatwick Express rail shuttle.

National Express won a 10year deal with the promise of extra services and new trains. Although initially it will receive more than £16.5m in subsidy - £6.5m more than currently heing paid to British Rail by the end of the 10-year franchise it has committed itself to paying £10m for the right to run the services. The franchise for Midland Main Line, covers services hetween London St Pancras and Wellingborough, Leicester, Loughborough, Not-tingham, Derby and Sheffield.

While not committing itself to the existing timetable, National Express says it will "be maintaining broadly the cur-rent level of service for the first three years" and that by 1999, once new trains had been leased. there would be substantial increases in the timetable. For example, according to Roger Salmon the franchising director, there will be "10 more services each weekday to and from Derby. 10 each weekday for Not-tingham and 22 for Leicester".

### MPs battle over reform

**ANDREW BROWN** Religious Affairs Correspondent

The Church of England was threatened yesterday with a parliamentary scrutiny of its finances and organisation by the Commons Social Security Committee, which is examining changes in pensions policy proposed by the General Synod.

This apparently arcane topic has revived tensions between the General Synod and a minority of MPs passionately interested in church affairs, among them Frank Field, Labour MP for Birkenhead who chairs the committee.

Mr Field believes that the church should reform itself by means of a Bill, which Parliament can modify, and not by a measure, which is a law that Parliament can only accept or reject as a whole.

Philip Mawer, the General Synod's secretary-general, told the committee that removing the administration of clergy pensions from the Church Commissioners was necessary if the laity were to pay their share. The commissioners, who manage the Church of England's assets, lost £800m in property speculation in the late Eighties. He said a "fundamental shift" was taking place in church fund-ing, with parishes and dioceses taking on more of the burden.

### Child agency given boost to its image

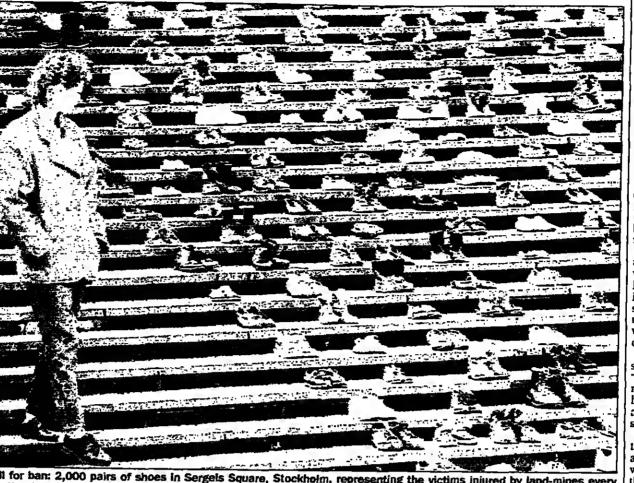
The Child Support Agency made "dramatic improvements" last year, the Governments as the collected or The CSA collected or ments" last year, the Government claimed yesterday as it launched a new offensive in the propaganda battle to turn round the agency's disastrous image, writes John Renton! Publishing an end-of-year

report which showed that the CSA had exceeded three of its five key performance targets,
Andrew Mitchell, a junior social security minister, claimed the agency was "well ou its way to providing a high-quality ser-

vice for all its clients". Malcolm Wicks, Labour's spokesman on the CSA, said: "They are improv-ing from such an ahysmally low

arranged £302m of maintenance payments in the last financial year (against a £300m target), 79 per cent of which were correct to the last penny (75 per cent), and 97 per cent of payments received from absent parents were passed on to the parents looking after children within 10 working days (90

But the agency managed to process only 48 per cent of new applications for maintenance within six months, as against its target of 60 per cent. The highly-critical report will be debated by MPs tomorrow.



Call for ban: 2,000 pairs of shoes in Sergels Square, Stockholm, representing the victims injured by land-mines every month, placed by the Swedish Red Cross on Saturday, the international day of protest against mines Photograph: Reuter

### Police reject hill rescue pay plan

STEPHEN GOODWIN

Chief police officers vesterday warned an MPs' inquiry into mountain rescue services that introducing compulsory insurance could wreck a "perfectly good" system for dealing with eccidents in the Scottish hills. A proposal that climbers and

illwalkers should take out cover to pay for their rescue if they get lost, injured or worse, is one of the options being considered by the Scottish Affairs Com-

But according to the Associ-ation of Chief Police Officers, which gave evidence to the MPs in Inverness, compulsory insurance could end the present system where the brunt of most mountain rescues is horne by volunteers, many of them

The police, who have the statutory responsibility for missing persons, and the mountaineers are at one in believing that arrangements which are working well in Scotland hould not be tampered with. Last year, there were 34 fatalities in the Scottish hills attributable to climbing or hillwalking accidents. This winter the toll has been comparative-

ly light with only seven fatalities,

but none the less the call for compulsory insurance has been

Bill Walker, a Tory member of the committee, says the user should pay for rescues and not the taxpayer. Insurance would enable the victim to meet a bill which could run into thousands of pounds if a helicopter was used. RAF or Royal Navy helicopters are used in 60 per cent of rescues. Keeping an RAF Sea King airborne for an hour costs an estimated £5,000 but crews egard the operations as valu-

able live training.
The police chiefs told the committee that if insurance was introduced "then there is little doubt that the civilian rescue service would cease to exist as we know it". In Scotland, there are 900 volunteers grouped into 24 civilian teams plus two RAF teams. There are big question marks over the willingness of volunteers to co-operate in a "paid-for" system.

Finlay Maclennan, the deputy chief constable of Northern Region, warned the MPs that if the hurden of carrying out rescues fell on the police, forces such as his own covering a mountainous region, could not cope without "vast" additional resources.

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### international

Italian election: Red flag flies again after 50 years as Olive Tree coalition sees off Berlusconi and pledges a new stability

# Victorious left promises era of co-operation

ANDREW GUMBEL

"We've waited 50 years for this moment," clamoured Massimo D'Alema, leader of Italy's main left-wing party, the PDS. The time was Iam yesterday and an cestatie centre-left was celehrating its landmark general election victory in the heart of Rome. The crowd roared with

approval.
Mr D'Alema's party has travelled a long way towards the political centre since its birth out of the ashes of the old Communist Party six years ago, but under the circumstances, he could not resist a throwback to the old tradition. "Finally we have brought this symbol into government," he said, standing on the balcony of the party's historic headquarters on the Via delle Borreghe Oscure and wav-

ing a hammer-and-sickle flag. A crowd began chanting "Enrico, Enrico" in memory of Enrico Berlinguer, the visionary Communist leader of the 1970s who spent his life trying un-successfully to forge a "historic compromise" to bring his party to power alongside the Chris-

achieve during the Cold war, the value of the much-hattered however, Mr D'Alema has lira, and the outgoing prime managed in its messy after-math. The victorious Olive Tree coalition, linking the PDS with a myriad of centrist, Christian Democrat and environmentalist groups, is really the historic

compromise made flesh. Mr D'Alema has been its architect, but a moderate economics professor, Romano Prodi, has the task of forming the next government. The Olive Tree won an absolute majority in the Senate, the upper house of parliament, and pulled sig-nificantly ahead of Silvio Berlusconi's Freedom Alliance in the Chamber of Deputies.

In the lower house, however, Mr Prodi will have to rely on at least the tacit support of one of two protest groups - the far-left Rifondazione Comunista, with which the Olive Tree had an electoral pact, and the volatile Northern League, which outstripped all expectations by garnering some 11 per cent of the

Despite the fragility of the result, a wave of euphoria swept over the country indicating the arrival of something truly new in Italian politics. The financial What Mr Berlinguer failed to markets reacted by marking up

minister, Lamberto Dini, an ally of Mr Prodi's, was confident interest rates would soon fall.

What was immediately noticeable was a sharp change in tone, from the aggressive, almost paranoid rantings of Mr Berlusconi and his allies in the neo-fascist National Alliance, to the conciliatory tones of the Olive Tree, Apart from his one nostalgic reference to the past, Mr D'Alema was quick to point out that aggressioo and the desire for revenge were not part of the new political culture.

Faced with cries of "Let's put Berlusconi in jail!", Mr D'Ale-ma retorted: "No - that's the way the right behaves, not us." Mr Prodi, meanwhile, pledged cross-party talks on constitutional reform to end Italy's chronic instability.

The Freedom Alliance, by contrast, found it extraordinarily difficult to concede defeat. Mr Berlusconi, who has scarcely been off the television screens for two years, did not react until last night, when he claimed unconvincingly his side had in fact won more votes, Earlier he was reported to have said "see you all abroad", perhaps



Fruits of victory: Romano Podri, leader of the centre-left Olive Tree coalition, is beseiged by the media in Rome

less of a joke than it sounds given his deepening problems with anti-corruption magistrates.

The higgest disappointment on the right was for Gianfranco Fini's reformed neo-fascists, who had hoped to reach 20 per cent of the vote, putting them level or even ahead of Mr Berlusconi's Forza Italia, But

they wound up with just 15 per cent, five points behind Forza. The result was particularly

awkward for Mr Fini, who singlehandedly provoked the election by pulling out of all-party talks on constitutional reform in February. His push for a presidential style of government.

ANDREW GUMBEL

If you want to understand what really happened in Italy's gen-eral election, ask Mel Gibson.

Or rather, marvel at the timing

with which his film Braveheart

swept the Oscars last month. His

tale of William Wallace's revolt

against the English provided the

Northern League, the volatile

headway in the negotiations, is now likely to he replaced with a less centralised, less radical kind of reform.

The first job of the new parliament, which will not convene until 9 May, will be to elect speakers in the two chambers. Only then can formal talks oo

spent force, they were back

vesterday with more than 10 per cent of the vote and 59 seats in

the Chamber of Deputies -

twice as maoy as they had

dreamed of capturing.

The man with the power to

make or break Romano Prodi's

incipient centre-left govern-

ment is the League's quixotic leader. Umberto "Braveheart"

place, although by then it should be reasonably clear what shape the new administration will take.

Early indications suggest Mr Prodi as prime minister, his number two Walter Veltroni as deputy, Mr Dini as either trea-

joining and toppling the con-

servative coalition government

not clear. Ostensihly, he wants

to split the affluent corth from

the rest of the country and set

up an independent republic. But

Mr Bossi is too intelligent to

Quite what he stands for is

headed by Silvio Berlusconi.

'Braveheart' in League of his own

Having been written off as a years, playing a big role toppling the old governing parties in the esterday with more than 10 per early 1990s and, two years ago.

Violante as justice minister. One key job will he the minister of posts and telecommunications, responsible for broadcasting. Mr Berlusconi could well lose one or more of his three television channels.

Leading article, page 16 Comment, page 17 Hamish McRae, page 22

His real interest though is to shake up the establishment and

make sure it does not settle into

its lazy old ways. He is a one-

man vanguard of the revolution.

and a consummate political

strategist. As such, he has at-

tracted a massive protest vote,

especially in the oorth, where

disillusion with Mr Berlusconi

runs high and the centre-left is

viewed with suspicion. "We

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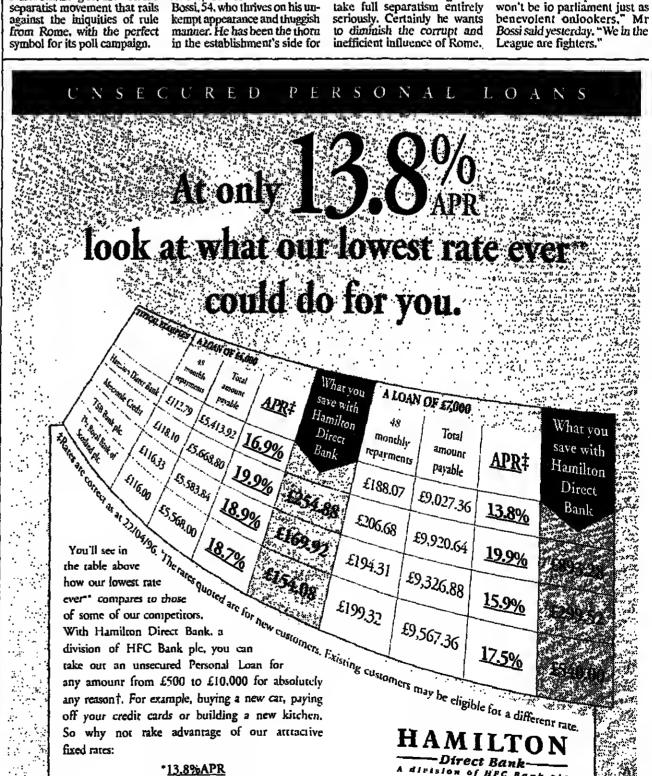
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Aftermath of Qana massacre: The Israeli attack has undermined Clinton's initiative at Sharm el-Sheikh to tackle 'terrorism'

### US faces long haul to peace in Middle East

PATRICK COCKBURN

ੇਫ਼ੁੱਕੇ stability

A cruel American cartoon shows two ageing US diplomats sitting on a park bench in Washington, studying a newspaper filled with news of the war in Lebanon. One of the State Department veterans shakes his head sadly and says: "It wouldn't have happened if Warren Christopher was alive."

Mr Christopher, the US Secretary of State, may prove the cynics wrong in the next few days by winning a ceasefire in Lebanon, but it is an uphill job. "We think we have a chance of putting a deal together this week," said Nicholas Burns, the State Department spokesman in Damascus yesterday, as Mr Christopher met President Hafez al-Assad. "Success is not assured. We'll stay as long as it

It is Mr Christopher's 19th time in Syria since he took office and it is by far his most important visit. There is more at stake here than an end to the fighting in Lehanon. In under two weeks Israel's Operation Grapes of Wrath, backed by the US until the Qana massacre, has put at risk the main American policy aims in the Middle East.

And it all happened so quickly. Only last month the US seemed to be at the peak of its influence in the region, In the wake of the suicide bombs in Israel in March President Bill Clinton assembled 27 world leaders in Sharm el-Sheikh in Egypt, including leaders from the Arab world, to attend a conference to show their solidarity with Israel. Few would bave at-

tended without US prompting. All this is at risk because of Grapes of Wrath and the rain of explosives on south Lebanon. Yevgeny Primakov, the Russian Foreign Minister, at a rancorous ter. His lead over Binyamin Nemeeting with Shimon Peres, the tanyahu, his rival for the prime Israeli Prime Minister, told him: Your attacks in Lebanon are without proportion to Hizbollah activity and, in the end, you have hardly killed any Hizbollah members, but have killed bundreds of civilians. If you sought to convene the Sharm el-Sheikh conference today, the heads of

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state would not come." The damage to US policy is even deeper than that. Grapes of Wrath has poisoned the political atmosphere in the Middle East as a whole. Initial American endorsement of the operation is damaging the "peace process" hy which hostility be-

tween Israel and the Arabs has killed 77 Israeli soidiers in would be defused in a Middle East which is largety under the hegemony of the US since the end of the Gulf war in 1991. Syria and its ally Iran did not

go to Sharm el-Sheikh but they appeared isolated in their opposition. No longer. The Syrian newspapers yesterday showed President Assad meeting five foreign ministers in one day, Iran also showed signs of hreaking out of the isolation which the US is trying to impose on it. Ali Akhar Velayati, the Iranian Foreign Minister, held talks in Damascus with Mr Primakov and Hervé de Charette, the French Foreign

Worse, from the US point of view, none of this is helping Mr Peres win the election on 29 May - a central aim of President

### The EU endorsement

Luxembourg (AP) - The European Union yesterday endorsed both the French and US plans to end fighting between Israel and Hizbollah guemilas in south Lebanon.

"The aim of these efforts must be to obtain, with an immediate halt to hostilities and acts of violence, the elaboration of a lasting agreement between" Israel and the Hizbollah guerillas, EU ministers said.

They also stuck by their critical dialogue with Iran, ignoring US appeals to isolate Tehran

Clinton. Sharm el-Sheikh was aimed at fostering the political survival of Mr Peres after the suicide hombs. But the latest polls show that Grapes of Wrath is not helping the prime minisminister's office, is only 5 per cent. Many Israeli-Arabs, one of Labour's key constituencies, say they will abstain.

In a sense Mr Clinton gave a warning at Sharm el-Sheikh about what was going to happen. He pledged support for Israel in combating the "terrorists" of Hamas, Islamic Jihad and Hizbollah. Hamas and Islamic Jihad are Palestinian movements which carried out the suicide bomb attacks in Jerusalem, Ashkelon and Tel Aviv. But Hizbollah is purely Lebanese.

the last three years. Israeli ca-sualties had not increased markedly in recent months. In the wake of Sharm el-

Sheikh, Israel and the US appeared intent on teaching Syria a lesson. Viewed from Damascus, Operation Grapes of Wrath may appear to be the latest in a series of hostile moves by Washington and Tel Aviv. In the last six months Jordan has turned against its old friends in Iraq and has successfully cultivated Israel and the US. Equally menacing for Syria is the military agree-ment signed by Israel with Turkey, allowing Israeli aircraft to train in Turkish airspace. Fearing encirclement by al-

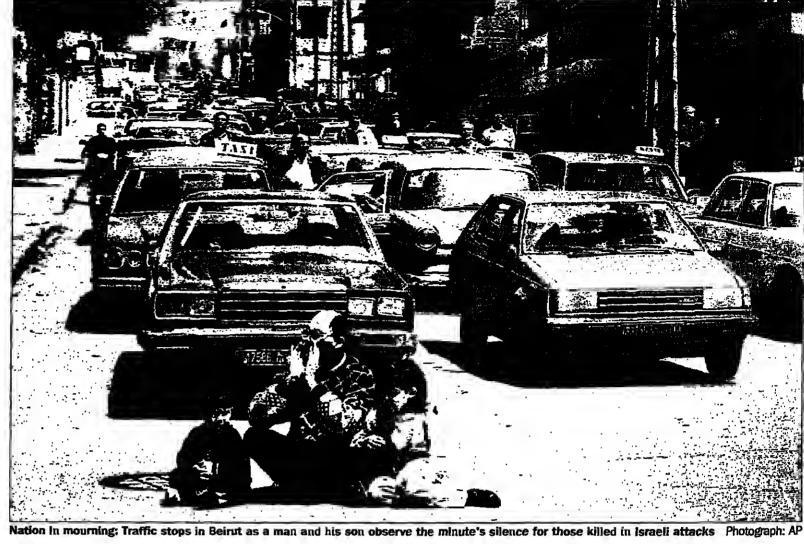
lies of Israel and the US, Syria is unlikely to stand down the 3,000 guerrillas of Hizbollah in south Lehanon. The ability to end the skirmishing in the Israeli occupation is a card so valuable that Damascus will cash it in as part of a final peace agreement with Israel.

Despite the massive destruction inflicted by Grapes of Wrath, Israeli military intelligence admits that the guerrillas have suffered little, and were never likely to do so un-less Israel had launched a ground offensive.

It may be that Sharm el-Sheikh created a lethal hubris in Israel and the US. Only this explains why they re-entered the Lebanese political swamp on 11 April, despite their experiences in the 1980s. When Mr Christopber arrived in Damascus on Saturday he spoke of a quick ceasefire. It bas not bappened. The problem is that the campaign launched by Mr Peres has already failed. The Katyusba rockets that he promised to stop are still falling. But be dare not admit failure because this might lose him the election.

Only the US can now save Mr Peres. Iran, Syria and Hizbollah know that every day Grapes of Wrath continues it damages Israel and the US more than them. They also have cards still to play. Hizbollah has not yet made ground attacks which will cause casualties among Isracli forces. Another Qana massacre is possible. Underestimating the political effect of Grapes of Wrath may turn out to he the worst miscalculation by the US in the Middle East since the American ambassador to Iraq went on holiday a few days before Saddam Hussein invaded

Letters, page 16



### Hizbollah profits from nation's fury

To understand how the Lehanese felt, you only had to watch the car which drove down Baalbek Street yesterday with four large yellow and green Hizbollah flags - complete with the word "Allah" and a band holding a Kalashnikov rifle flapping above it from make-shift flagpoles.

On the bonnet and boot,

there were two equally large glass boxes half filled with paper currency. "Give for the Islamic Resistance", was hand-written on the side. And out of shops and houses, men and women - well-dressed. many of them middle class and very definitely not religious fanatics - walked, unsmiling, to put money in the boxes.

Never hefore bave such scenes been witnessed on the streets of Beirut. Previously desnised by many Lebauese especially those who are not of the Shia Muslim faith - the Hizbollah has, thanks to Israel, suddenly come of age. The Israeli offensive against civilians - which continued yesterday when an Israeli gunboat fired at an ambulance on the coastal highway north of Sidon, causing the driver to lose control and hadly injure a pedestrian - has united Muslims and Christians in almost unprecedented fury.

In both Muslim and Christ-

ian areas of Beirut, the Lebanese bave tied black ribbons to their car radio aerials in memory of the 110 civilians slaughtered by the Israelis in the UN compound at Qana. Outside mosques, cleries have pasted newspaper photographs of the hloodbath and prayers for the dead. A national day of mourning yesterday closed down shops, hanks and gov-ernment huildings across the

silence in memory of the 200 or so civilians killed by the Israelis. They include, of course, not only the men, women and children of Oana but a four-day-old baby killed with 11 members of her family by an Israeli heli-copter attack on her home in Nabatea, three children and two women in an ambulance that was deliberately targeted by another Israeli helicopter pilot in southern Lebanon, a twoIsraeli missile in Beirut and three sisters cut down by Israeli shells in the southern Bekaa. Only eight Hizbollah guerrillas are believed to have died.

munity - traditionally friendly to the West and once allies of the Israelis - been spared. An elderly Christian Maronite was killed when an Israeli air raid inexplicably struck his totally Christian village in the Bekaa. country while at mldday, many while two Christian Maronite Lebanese observed a minute's Lebanese army soldiers were killed by an Israeli helicopter pilot in southern Lebanon. The soldiers were driving near Tibnin when their car was chased by the helicopter. The two men jumped from their vehicle, waying their arms and pointing to their US-made uniforms, then

ran into a house for protection. The Israeli pilot then fired a laser-guided missile into the building, killing them both.

the sabotage attack by the Israelis on two of Lehanon's main power stations, both in Christian Maronite areas where

Lebanese Muslims and Christians

are at one with guerrillas against

Israel and US, reports Robert Fisk

no Hizbollah would ever dare Nor has the Christian comto visit. The power cuts - the country now only receives six hours of electricity a day - affeet Muslims and Christians a Lebanese government probihition that Christian students dressed in hlack were prevented from staging a demonstration outside the US embassy in east Beirut to mark "the end of the New World Order". Not a Lebanese believes that the Qana massacre was an ac-

cident. "I used to hate the Hizbollah," a student of hotel management told me vesterday, his voice steadily rising in anger. "But now I admire them. They are the only guys with the guts to stand up to the Israelis and uilding, killing them both.

Almost equally shocking for Palestinians did that. They say the Christian community was that Peres had to do this in or-

der to win the election. And the der to win the election. And the Americans say there will only be a Middle East peace if Peres wins the election. So you mean all this is for peace? You mean that Peres has to slaughter all these people to win the election and save peace? We Lebanese have to die for your peace."

Alone in its optimism, the opposition newspaper Al Divar

position newspaper Al Divar predicted that the hirth of a new and united Lchanon would follow the latest Israeli onslaught. "The [Israeli] strike is targeting all of Lebanon," the paper said. "... No better show of national unity have we ever witnessed."

But other papers emphasised the supine response of other the US to condemn the savagery of the Israeli attacks. In the streets of Beirut, West-

erners - even those who have lived here many years - are receiving the kind of quizzical, suspicious glances from old acquaintances and scarcely suppressed hostility from strangers that symbolises the depth of animosity again growing towards the West. Newspaper cartoons invariably link America with Israel's onslaught. One of them showed Mr Peres harvesting the "Grapes of Wrath" after which the current operation is so shamefully named. Each grape

### Artillery bombardment 'defied orders'

CHRISTOPHER BELLAMY Defence Correspondent

Israeli artillery which shelled the UN base at Qana in southern Lebanon, killing I 10 Lehanese refugees, ignored the "safety ring" marked around UN bases. in defiance of standing orders. the Independent has learned.

The Israeli guns were firing at near-maximum range - 10 miles - and firing over the UN hase at Hizbollah rocket launchers 300 yards to the north. At that range, Israeli sources said, the natural dis-persion of shells in an elliptical pattern along the line of fire led some to fall short. The UN military adviser to

the Secretary-General, General Frank van Kappen, arrived in Beirut on Friday, the day after the Qana shelling, to conduct an investigation into the attack. He will also visit Jerusalem before submitting his report.



The UN said yesterday that six 155mm shells landed within the UN base. Between 50 and 70 shells landed in the Qana area during that day.

Israeli sources denied sug-

gestions that the attack on the UN base was deliberate. Although both the UN and the Israeli Defence Forces have not yet completed formal investigations, it now looks likely that the artillery commander on the spot will be blamed for ignoring the safety margin around the known Fijian UN base at Qana and firing too hastily on the position from which Hizbollah had fired a number of BM-21

rockets. It now seems clear that the Israelis fired as quickly as possible, to hit the Hizbollah gunners before they could escape, and did not fire ranging shots. Had the Hizbollah position heen to one side of of the UN base, relative to the position of the guns, there might not have been a problem. However, the UN said the Hizbollah position was directly north of the UN

base, only 300 yards away. The M109A1 self-propelled howitzers used by the Israelis have a maximum range of about 18km, and were, according to Israeli sources, firing from 15km or 16 km. At that range, the shells will spread across a "beat-en zone" along the line of fire. Some will land short or beyond the target.

Had the Israelis observed the "safety ring", they would not have risked some of the shells falling into the UN base. It appears that on this occasion a local commander may have ignored the standing orders which have a "safety ring" around each known UN site.

Crowd trouble in Bosnia

The UN has had troops in the Qana base for 18 years.

vear-old girl decapitated by an

According to UN sources in Lebanon, the Israeli shells were fitted with M732 radar fuses, which detonate them at 7m off the ground, the most lethal possible height, blasting fragments downwards to amputate, maim and kill. The Israelis were using a

US-built radar system, "Firefinder", to detect and plot the launch of the Hizboliah rockets. The radar will plot the position to within a ten-figure grid reference. This is then keyed into the fire control computer, which will produce settings for each of the guns distributed around the firing positions, so that their fire will converge on the target. However, at nearmaximum range there will still be some dispersion. The Israeli sources also suggested the coordinates may not have been transcribed accurately.

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### Satellites to fight South African 'carjackers'

Johannesburg (Reuter) — A hi-tech satellite tracking system used to recover stolen cars is being introduced in the country that needs it most - violent crime-ridden South Africa, police said yesterday. This is the clearest indica-

tion by the state of its commitment to eradicate hijacking and motor theft using the latest and most effective technology available," the security minister Sydney Mufamadi said.

A hidden device on the car can be located by satellite once the owner has reported the theft to the police. The use of the new technology in the US and elsewhere has radically improved the recovery rate of stolen vehicles.

South African motorists live in fear of the car hijacker, who can strike at city-centre traffic lights, out in the country or at the electric gates to their often burgled homes.
Usually, armed gangs force
the driver to hand over the still-

running car. For good measure, they often shoot the victim. Previous innovations to make

cars more hijack-proof, such as immobilisers that make the engine cut out after a few minutes if the car has not been started with the proper procedure, have only made the ordeal of hijacking more horrific.

The criminals now often take the driver with them until they are sure they know all about the car's security systems.

Banja Luka (Reuter) - Rival factions in Bosnia are encouraging dangerous confrontations in which crowds of refugees try to cross truce lines to reach their former homes, UN workers

and Nato officers said vesterday. Both Serb and Muslim-Croat power-brokers were promoting incidents involving embittered civilians for their own political ends, Nato officers said, despite a serious risk the events could turn bloody.

Peacekeeping soldiers fired into the air and deployed troops between angry crowds at Doboj on Sunday in the latest incident in which refugees have massed at post-war boundary lines between Serb territory and the Moslem-Croat federation. "This is how the war started people marching and setting up

barricades." a Danish officer in the Nato-led I-For force said. Nato officials in Sarajevo warned the primary responsi-bility for dealing with such confrontations lies with local civil

authorities. "We clearly understand and support the right of individuals to return to their pre-war homes and to visit family graves," a Nato spokesman. Major Simon Haselock, said. "[But] we are concerned by what seems to be a cynical attempt to manipulate the legitimate concerns of people about their property and homesteads for narrow, local ends. We are not going to become a rent-a-

crowd-control organisation." In most of the demonstrations, Bosnian Muslim authorities - including police in civilian clothes - have led refugees towards towns from which they were expelled in the war. Serb authorities have replied by organising protests stopping Mus-lim refugees entering Serb territory, say relief workers. The confrontations give

Bosian Serb leaders an excuse to strengthen police powers and rally support against a "common enemy". Leaders of the Muslim-Croat

federation are promoting the demonstrations citing the Dayton peace agreement which guarantees repatriation and freedom of movement across Bosnia. However, international relief workers say the ruling Party of Democratic Action is keen to stage the marches because they also drum up support among refugees angered by the

loss of homes.

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In the second of our series, Philippa Atkinson examines the effects of outside interference

# Conflict heightened by Western meddling

When Graham Greene visited Greater Liberia and popular Liberia in 1934, he was confused support. The war had been by the seemingly impenetrable political scene. "It will be seen." he wrote, "that Liberian politics are complicated." The last six years of civil war in this small sub-tropical country have certainly been complicated. The during this period. five different factions, three transitional governments and 13 peace agreements have made it. for many, too complicated even

to try to understand. But the causes matter, because Liberia's descent into chaos is not accidental. The collapse into economic warfare and factional fighting for political control can at least partly be attributed to the hostility of the US and Nigeria to Charles

It started on Christmas Eve 1989, when Charles Taylor entered Liberia in the last of the many attempts to end the autocratic rule of President Samuel Doe. In just six months. Taylor's forces, swelled by support from those targeted by Doe's brutal regime, had reached Monrovia, with the national army, the AFL staging a strategic retreat. The war lasted only 10 months, and the ceasefire - negotiated in No-vember 1990 - held for two years between Taylor's NPFL and Ecomog, the West African peacekeeping force. Taylor controlled all of

Liberia outside Monrovia, and, in the capital, an interim government ruled, with security provided by Ecomog, The country was divided, and a political stalemate precluded any early hopes of disarmament.

During this time, Taylor huilt

marked by horrific violence. with groups associated with Doe's government being subject to summary and mass executions. But by early 1991 the violence was under control, and no new refugee flows occurred

The economy was supported by exports of rubber and logs from the main port of Buchanan, Taylor studied eco-nomics in the US and this education was perhaps reflected in his policies, which called on foreign concessions to pay wages in US dollars and taxes in kind. One company was asked to provide passenger buses for the Gbarnga-Kakata route, while the largest logging company in Buchanan provid-

ed electricity for the city. The importance of Taylor's policies and the stability of his rule in Greater Liberia have only been recognised in retrospect. At the time, the US government, worried about Taylor's links with Libya, allied itself with the Nigerian component of Ecomog and its attempts to weaken Taylor's control.

Neither country was willing to let Taylor take over - the Nigerians hecause the then President Babangida had been a close associate and relative of Doe. While diplomatic and aid officials in Liberia now discuss Taylor's charisma, his consistency and his economics degree, back then the talk was of the atrocities committed by his fighters, his cocaine habit and his megalomania.

Ecomog is widely acknowledged to have conducted a has been controlled ever since Ecomog formed an open coali-covert campaign against Taylor by Ulimo and Ecomog, and the tion with Ulimo and rearmed



Worldly goods: A family carry abandoned furniture home yesterday after two weeks marooned in a barracks in Monrovia

support and funding of Ulimo, a new rebel army set up among Krahn and Mandingo refugees. These groups, leading political and business players under Doe, had been forced to flee for their lives in 1990, but, having amassed both contacts and wealth regrouped in Sierra Leone and Guinea.

By mid-1992 Ulimo were, with the help of Ecomog, dnving Taylor's NPFL out of the diamond-rich areas of western Liberia. Refugees fleeing this area to Monrovia reported seeing Ulimo troops wearing Ecomog uniforms. Western Liberia

during the ceasefire, through its latest problems in Monrovia were partly sparked by infighting in January between Ecomog and Ulimo-J (the Krahn faction) over diamond mines near Tubmanberg. During 1992, Ecomog was

deployed around the country in accordance with the first peace agreement, the Yamoussoukro Accords. But Taylor refused to disarm to a non-neutral force, calling continuously for a small UN presence. In November 1992, he finally attacked Monrovia. "Operation Octopus" was strongly resisted by Ecomog, which bombed civilian areas to renel the NPEL attacks. areas to repel the NPFL attacks.

the AFL. Its actions, including direct attacks on an aid warehouse and convoy, were given the full hacking of the UN Security Council in March 1993, when Boutros Boutros-Ghali praised the regional approach

to conflict resolution. The proliferation of warfords has made it much harder to resolve the conflict. Taylor's hands are not clean, and his motives may not he pure, but he alone has demonstrated a capability of creating some order. As one Liberian put it: "Why didn't you guys just let Taylor take over from the start – let him take what he's gonna get anyway, and save us five years of suffering."

### Fear of cholera epidemic as the clean-up begins

Monrovia (Reuter) - A huge clean-up began yesterday after two weeks of fighting with A team of US diplomats was clean-up began yesterday after two weeks of fighting with health workers hattling to contain outbreaks of disease.

All over the city people came out to help. A group of boys piled rubbish around a decom-posed body wearing a motor-cycle belinet, ready to burn it. With the fighting over, epi-demics pass the main threat demics pose the main threat. Thousands displaced by the fighting lack clean drinking wa-ter and makeshift clinics are

to ensure that the ceasefire leads to a lasting peace.

West African Ecomog peace-keepers have been deployed around the city's main army barracks, where thousands of people were trapped by the fighting.

Washington has promised \$30m of equipment, training and aid to Ecomog if it plays a "neutral and effective role".

due in Monrovia to join efforts to ensure that the ceasefire

reef it hit.

Peking - Li Hai, 41, a Chinese dissident and student active in the 1989 pro-democracy movement, was arrested and charged with leaking state secrets, his mother said. He was accused

Monk jailed

### Prosecutor drops spy case against former Polish PM

Warsaw (Reuter) – The prose-cutor investigating allegations that the former prime minister, Andrzej Mil-launched a three-month inves-that the former prime minister. Jozef Oleksy spied for Moscow said yesterday he would not proceed with the case, as the evidence was inadequate. "I decided to drop this case," Slawomir Gorzkiewicz, a military prosecutor, said.

Mr Oleksy has consistently denied the allegations, levelled by Poland's security service and December by the outgoing in-terior minister, Andrzej Milczanowski, who said the security service (UOP) had evidence Mr Oleksy knowingly informed for foreign intelligence since before the 1989 fall of Communism until last year, when he was speaker of parliament. It later emerged Mr Milczanowski

tigation on 24 January, which they had to complete this week. The furore shook the ruling

coalition of Mr Oleksy's ex-Communist Democratic Left Alliance (SLD) and the Polish speaker of parliament. It later emerged Mr Milczanowski meant Soviet and Russian spies.

Mr Oleksy, once a senior Peasant party, which only after tough negotiations formed a reshuffled cahinet under the SLD's Wlodzimierz Cimosze-

union leader, handed over to his ex-Communist opponent Aleksander Kwasniewski, who had narrowly beaten him in November elections.

Mr Oleksy dubbed the allegations a "filthy provocation" by pro-Walesa UOP officers, admitting only to an innocent ac-quaintance with Vladimir

and his successor at Russia's Warsaw embassy were also named in the prosecutor's investigation, but Mr Gorzkiewicz said no action would be taken

against them either. Parliamentary elections are due next year and Walesa is trying to rally the centre-right op-position for a comeback. He

and in Sport

tion in power was unable to do anything else with such an important problem. We will return to this matter after the parlia-

mentary elections."

The SLD's core Social Democratic (SdRP) party made Mr Oleksy its leader after his resignation in a show of solidarity and confidence in his inThe SdRP deputy leader, Iz-abella Sierakowska, said that the

party would push for Mr Milczanowski and others involved in bringing the allegations to be tried before a special state trihunal. "I think that in the nearest future. . . those who are guilty should be punished," she IN BRIEF

### Nazi guard freed because of illness

Düsseldorf - Hermine Ryan. who sent concentration-camp inmates to the gas chambers as an SS guard, has been freed from a life sentence because of illness. Ryan, a guard at Maj-danek. Poland, was convicted of murder 15 years ago and sen-tenced to life; she was in prison a total of 20 years.

### Tornado kilis two

Fort Smith - A tornado that ripped through this west Arkansas city blew down several buildings and homes and killed two children. At least 50 people were injured and 200 left homeless. It did most of its damage along the main street of the city of 73,000.

AP

### Sithole on trial

Harare - The veteran Zimbabwean opposition leader Nd-abaningi Sithole goes on trial today, charged with plotting to kill President Robert Mugabe and attempting to overthrow his government.

### Jaffna 'cut off'

Colombo - Sri Lankan forces that have been thrusting deep into Tamil Tiger rebel territory in a pincer movement had cut off the northern Jaffna peninsula from the mainland, trapping rehels and residents, an army officer said.

### Africa's 'PC excuse'

London - Most Africans underplayed the role of incom-petent leadership, economic mismanagement and corrup-Uon in their continent's problems "in the name of political Mokhethí correctness, Moshoeshoe, of the South African Development Re-sources Centre, in Johannes hurg. said.

### Delicate mission

Paris - France kept a discreet veil over a rare visit by President Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire, expected in Paris this week. Officials said it was private and would not comment on a report that he may meet President Jacques Chirac.

### Liner casts off

Cairo - The luxury liner Royal Viking Sun left the Egyptian port of Sharm el-Sheikh after insurers gave Egypt a \$23.5m letter of guarantee covering claims for damage to a coral

### Dissident charged

of leaking state secrets, a crime for which he may face several years in prison.

Peking - Hang Meisheng, a Chinese monk, was sentenced to seven years' jail for selling fake entry tickets to his Great Brightness Temple in the eastern city of Yangzhou. Reuter

# Inis week in The In

This week and every week, Section Two has a new look, with more pages, new features, a daily radio column and an expanded listings section providing Britain's most comprehensive daily guide to going out.

### on Monday

A new regular section, Family Life, that deals with the interests and problems of parents and children. Julie Myerson's column also focuses on home life Plus: a new series - Do we need? - which challenges

the icons of modern Britain
And, every, Monday unrivalled coverage of the
expanding world of information technology in our

fact from behind the scenes and the best in sports photography.

A 24-page tabloid section with all the action from the weekend's sporting action. Plus: the Monday interview

in which a leading figure comes under the microscope,

an unbeatable results service, gossip, speculation and

### on Tuesday

Health: how wearing a virtual reality helmet could help cure phobias and other psychological problems. Plus: flaky nails are not simply a problem for the vain

but a sign of ill-health, so what can be done about them? Also on Tuesday, fashion, architecture, visual

Bridget Jones's diary continues to chronicle the encounters and exquisite embarrassments in the life of Britain's most-read spinster. Plus: the midweek travel section, your money, finance and law. In our back pages, Martin Newell, Britain's leading rock poet, and Neil Kerber, one of the country's funniest cartoonists, present their views of the modern world.

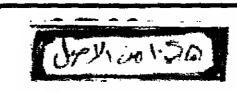
### on Thursday

All our regular features, including Virginia fronside's Dilemmas, John Walsh's column, plus film, education

and graduate plus. In the back pages, William Hartston's history of the world in 101/2 inches

24Seven - a new 20-page pull-out-and-keep entertainment and listings section. Including a complete day-by-day planner for the week ahead, plus

seven-day TV, radio and satellite listings, ticket offers and informed comment on the week's highlights. Plus: eight pages of pop and classical music





# Mitterrand's last word on Vichy and history

MARY DEJEVSKY

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Tere mission

Three and a half months after his death France's former president, François Mitterrand, still lies uneas in his grave. With his relatives bocking publication of a book tha claims he misled the French public about his cancer, and his widow's not always flattering memoirs still on the bestseller list, his own recollections have now appeared in two slim volumes which are distinguished by the elegance of the lan-guage and the lavishness of the author's self-justification.

He completed the books, published today, only in the final days of his life and they con-

tain his last words on the two hig controversies that marked his later years: claims that he collaborated with the Vichy regime and accusations that he "misread history" by resisting the reunification of Germany.

On the unification of Germany, Mitterrand comes out fighting and appears to have been stung by the accusation that he misread history. The first time he broached the question in public, he says, was during a visit to Moscow in July 1989. He knew that his hosts strongly disapproved of unification - and implies that it would have been had manners to disagree.

He charts his statements, in-

terviews and articles between

not oppose unification, but merely laid down necessary conditions. "If moving towards unification was legitimate, that sull did not mean that it should

come about just anyhow," he says, insisting that it should be "peaceful and democratic". The only real disagreement with Chancellor Helmut Kohl, he elaims, was over recognition of the German-Polish border along the Oder-Neisse line, but insists that they managed to preserve good relations despite this. If I could be accused of any-

then and the day - again in Moscow - where the Allied thing, Mitterrand says, "it was that I did not jump through the window of the first carriage of the train [of history] ... bui if I was left on the platform, so were powers finally approved the end of Germany's division, insisting all the time that he did a lot of other people."

On his connections with the Vichy regime, Mitterrand is ambivalent, while making every effort to appear forthright and reasonable. He presents himself as an eternal rebel, who bucked any curb on his freedom, while appreciating a strong leader when he saw one. Hence his decision to serve the Resistance in France rather than abroad, and his growing contempt for Marshall Pétain - for "perpetually compromising". For his decision to settle in

Germany in 1942, and his acceptance of a job ("only on con-tract") with the Vichy regime, his only defence is rhetoric: "What am I reproached with? Of not having been in the resistance in 1940, when I was in prison in Germany? Of being pressganged by Vichy to take a high-level post for pay equivalent to less than today's minimum wage? Of having breathed the air of this town for a few months - air that many others gulped down and suffered no ill effects

Mitterrand has admiration, but also misgivings about, General Charles de Gaulle. Only De Gaulle, he suggests, could have emerged as France's liberator. But, he argues, if De Gaulle's re-sistance appeal from London had not been mythologised in the way it was, "De Gaulle would not have been able to obscure the internal resistance, whose role has been systematically and unjustly played down.

In one anecdote Mitterrand sums up the chancy atmosphere of the time. Returning to Paris in 1943 as "Resistance agent Morland", he was stopped by the officers looking for blackmarket goods. His case conlained a British pisiol and evanide capsutes, 11 was exambutter, nn eggs? On your way!"



ined, and handed back: "No Entente cordiale: Presidents Mikhail Gorbachev (left) and François Mitterrand



Communist supporters marching to the Lenin Mausoleum, in Red Square, Moscow, yesterday on the 126th anniversary of the birth of the backfired miscrably. On health the founder of the Russian Communist state. The Communists are leading in poils for the elections on 16 June Photograph: Michael Evstafiev / Reuters im of Richard Nixon; that a cross Clinton remain unproven.

### Lacklustre Dole fuels Republican poll jitters

RUPERT CORNWELL Washington

A month after Boh Dole clinched the Republican nomination in record time, dismal poll ratings and an uncharacteristically clumsy performance as Senate majority leader are kindling party fears that he may lead it to a massive defeat in November which could even cost it control of Congress.

The second half of April was when Mr Dole was supposed to start the march to the White Hnuse, reinvigorated after the Easter recess and back in his natural habitat nn Capitol Hill. Instead he has seen President Clinton widen his lead to 15 points or more and, far from using his Senate perch to define his policies, he has merely managed to expose Republican divisions on a host of major issues in the autumn campaign

Even before the primaries, Mr Dole had decided he would be better served staying on as majority leader, rather than step aside to concentrate on the campaign. Better free air-time on the Senate floor, where he controlled the legislative agenda, he reasoned, than paid air time - especially when he was virtually out of money until the summer conventions.

noeuvred himself into seeming to be trying to torpedo a modest but politically popular Bill that would expand insurance coverage for people who changed jobs or who suffered from pre-existing medical conditions. That measure now seems likely to go through, but only thanks to the defection of five Senate Republicans.

Much the same happened with a Bill to increase the min-

### Gamble on using Senate air-time has backfired miserably

imum wage, pressed by De-mocrats to underline their concern for the worst-off. But Mr Dole resisted, only to be, in his words, "hlindsided" by a group of House Republicans who support the proposed rise from \$4.25 (£2.81) to \$5.15 (£3.41) an hour. Now the increase will almost certainly be be voted upon, and approved probably this week.

Thus far, alas, the gamble has House nominee, is his inabili-

Republican candidate should play to the right during the primaries, where voters are more conservative, but once the nomination is secure, head back to the centre where elections are won and lost.

It is not his fault that he is easily identified with the deeply unpopular Speaker, Newt Gingrich, and the scarcely less unloved Republican Congress or that the populist Pat Buchanan could still make trouble at the San Diego convention.

But despite a first-hand view of how George Bush suffered from identification with the far-right at the Houston convention of 1992, Mr Dole still courts social and Christian conservatives, as in a blistering at-tack last week on Mr Clinton for destroying America's moral Barely six months before the

vote, many already feel that only two developments (best of all, both together) can give the listless Dole campaign real hope. One is nomination of retired General Colin Powell as his running mate, the other is a Whitewater sensation. But Gen Powell continues to say no. while despite every effort of Mr Mr Dole's basic problem, as Dole's allies on the Senate he seeks metamorphosis from Banking Committee and of primary candidate to White special prosecutor Kenneth Starr in Little Rock, the imag-

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### Chernobyl forgotten as Ukraine turns nuclear

As the scene of the worlf's worst nuclear disaster 10 years ago, Ukraine might be expected to have renounced nuclear power. or at least to be curtailing its use. Nothing could be further from

the truth. politicians in and out of government who defend it as a means of achieving economic

independence from Russia. Even the Chemobyliplant, where a reactor exploded and caught fire on 26 April 1986, is still operating, although the government says it will meet western concerns and close the station by 2000.

The pro-nuclear lobby points to the fact that last winter was one of the coldest and fiercest in living memory, and at times Ukrainians relied on their country's network of five stations and 15 reactors to supply half their energy needs.

Without Chernobyl and the other stations, nuclear industry officials say, schools and factories would have closed and people would have shivered in

"The last three winters have shown that Ukraine cannot survive without nuclear power. Our stations pulled the entire energy system through," said Nur Nigmatullin, the acting head of Ukraine's state nulear authority.

Apart from demanding the osure of Chemobyl, whose Soet-style graphite-core reacr is viewed as fundamentally awed, in design, western govenments have urged Ukraine treduce its reliance on nuclear pwer through conservation

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**Tony Barber** in Kiev reports on the return of an industry that gave the world its worst reactor accident

expanding with the support of ciency in other energy sectors. But Ukraine has barely emerged from a deep economic slump that coincided with the collapse of the Soviet Union, and the government says the tight hudgets needed to stabilise the economy do not allow for large expenditure on mod-

ernising the nuclear sector and launching energy conversion projects.
The Group of Seven industrialised countries has offered Ukraine about \$3hn (£1.65bn) to close Chernobyl and revamp the national energy industry, but the government is holding out for at least \$4bn. Officials say

the western aid would not cov-

er the cost of replacing the cracking concrete-and-steel

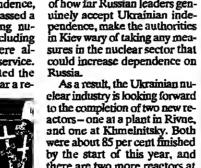
"sarcophagus" that was hastily

Ukraine's nuclear industry is measures and increased effi-huilt by Soviet authorities after April 1986 to entomb the ruined Chernobyl reactor.

But money is only part of the story. Another factor behind Ukraine's new-found determination to expand the nuclear industry is the decline in popular anti-nuclear sentiment

After Chernobyl, opposition to nuclear power turned into a powerful political force that was exploited by anti-communist nationalists seeking to cre-

ate an independent Ukraine. In 1990, one year before the declaration of independence, Ukraine's parliament passed a moratorium on building nuclear power stations, including three reactors that were almost ready to go into service. In 1993, parliament lifted the moratorium, and last year a re-



Power play: Greampeace protesters in Kiev remember

lost villages around Chemobyl Photograph: Efrem Lukatsky dustry as a whole does not.

actor at Zaporizha, Europe's largest plant with six 1,000 megawatt units, came on line.

Both the government and

many of its critics argue that cutting back nuclear power would risk placing Ukraine's economy at the mercy of foreign energy suppliers. In practice this means Russia, and to a lesser extent Turkmenistan, to which Ukraine owes huge debts in un-paid oil and gas bills.

The argument clearly has some substance at a time when Russia is using its influence in economic and energy matters as a way of re-integrating several former Soviet republics, notably Belarus, under its leadership. Persistent difficulties in Ukraine's relations with Russia, which boil down to the question of how far Russian leaders genuinely accept Ukrainian inde-pendence, make the authorities in Kiev wary of taking any mea-

As a result, the Ukrainian nuelear industry is looking forward to the completion of two new reactors - one at a plant in Rivue, and one at Khmelnitsky. Both were about 85 per cent finished by the start of this year, and there are two more reactors at Khmelnitsky which are already

45 per cent complete. Last July, Ukraine's nuclear authorities even declared that Chernobyl was the safest of its five plants, and the Chernobyl director, Serhii Parashin, proposed that it should continue to operate until 2007. If that seems unlikely, the further development of Ukraine's nuclear in-

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### Forest fires sweep Mongolia

Ulan Bator (Reuter) — Forest fires continued to rage out of control in north-eastern Mongolia yesterday, leaving burntout nomadic tent villages and charred cattle carcasses. "The situation is very seri-

ous," said General Damdin-

suren, deputy chief of the

Mongolian State Emergency

Commission, adding that the

fire damage was "huge".

Smoke from about 80 fires the Mongolian Steppe on 9 across a sprawling country the the size of western Europe was hampering efforts to extinguish the blazes that had killed at least one woman.

"We cannot even see where and how large the fires are from the airplanes because every place is thick with smoke," said Mr Damdinsuren.

April, some 3,000 firefighters. helped by nomads, have been working around the clock to bring the flames under control.

Shortages of food, exhaustion and poor equipment hampered firelighting efforts, Mr Damdinsuren said, adding that nomads in the remote Hentii mountains had fought the fire for days with Since the fires roared onto just coats and tree branches.



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# obituaries/gazette Molly Keane

Molly Keane had an unusual place in contemporary literature, in writing very good plays and novels under two entirely separate identities at different times of her life.

She was a leading playwright in the 1930s whose work was directed by John Gielgud and produced by Binkie Beaumont, and she was an interesting novelist. But all the time she wrote under the pseudonym of "M.J. Farrell" and few outside her close circle knew who she really was. Then personal tragedy intervened, she stopped writing and it was many years until, in 1981, the novel Good Behaviour was published under her own name, caused a sensation and just missed the Booker Prize. She became a celebrity both in Britain and in her homecountry, Ireland. Despite being well over 80 she continued to write, and Loving and Ghing and Time after Time, both published later in the decade, are among her best work.

She was born Mary Skrine, in 1904, into a family whose roots lay in the Anglo-Norman conquest of Ireland, but she spent a good deal of her early childhood in Bath, in the big house at Claverton now occupied by the American Museum, a use she deplored, promoting a culture she had little time for. Her mother wrote under the name Moira O'Neill, and was a significant minor poet, her father a colonial governor of Mauri-tius. Her childhood was lonely and deeply unhappy; domineering but incompetent mothers and weedy fathers are frequent characters in her books. In adolescence and young adulthood she lived mostly in Ireland, and her time there was marked by the endless political turmoil following the 1916 Easter Rising and the

But her family area of East

Cork and Waterford was per-haps less dramatically affected hy these events than some parts of the country, and after 1922 the traditional life of what were universally known as the Horse Protestants resumed, even if many participants were impoverished and had to resort to

second-hand riding boots. It was in the comedy of these years, where a good deal of "nipping" between the bedrooms of the different sexes took place, that she found the raw material for her first books. The importance of horses in this world cannot be overesti-

mated. The same limited group

of upper-class people met each other all over Ireland at the same events every year, sitting on the hacks of these animals. But it was an expensive way to spend your time, even then, and the only reason Molly really started writing was to finance her obsessive hunting. Mills and Boon took her first effort. Young Entry, and she was, as she always put it, over the first fence. When funds were low she locked herself away in her parents' home, wrote a novel and with the few hundred pounds gained spent the next few months staying at friends' houses, hunting almost every day, It was a simple, straightforwardly hedonistic world; dancing was to the wind-up gramo-phone. White Ladies were drunk before dinner, hardly

anyone opened a book.

To be known as a writer would have been social death. so she used the name M.J. Farrell, immortalising a Lismore pub. During this time her other main concern was an intense, five-year-long secret affair with the man who was, in 1938, to become her husband, Bohby Keane, He was dashing and, needless to say, rode beautifully, hut he was also intelligent and sensitive and encouraged her to take her writing more seriously.

A chance meeting at a Tipperary house-party with John Perry, one of the sons of the house hut also a working actor in London, led to her first efforts to write plays. They are, in general style, clones of standard West End comedies of the time. but with much better drawn characters and an accurate, pointed wit in the dialogue. The most successful, Spring Meeting, produced in 1938, was one of the Shaftesbury Avenue hits of the year, and deserves revival.

But she ran into trouble with Ducks and Drakes in 1941, a play that satirised the English war effort at a time when the desperation of the military situation led few in the audiences to appreciate her comedy. Although she tried again with Guardian Angel in 1944 and Treasure Huru in 1949, she never again had the success of the earlier work. But she loved the theatre, not least because the close relationship she enjoyed with Gielgud and Beaumont led her to attend rehearsals and emerge at least temporarily, and privately, from the anonymity that her social world had imposed on her.

The death in 1946 of her husband, at the early age of 37, was a blow. Their marriage had been a great source of strength to her. She stopped writing and devoted herself to hringing up their daughters. In any case, the world of the hunt and the accompanying coherence of the Anglo-Irish social life had begun to decline, even in strongholds like West Waterford. The crisis in the economy after 1945 had led to a marked decline in the various sources of income from the Empire on which so many of those families depended to augment the meagre returns from their farms. Some of the families from which

Molly Keane drew her ideas simply sold up and left.

The reasons for the renewal of her creativity that led to the Eighties books are not clear; perhaps she was just bored. She was too old to ride any more and, although she took an active part in community life at Ardmore, she may have felt the need to make a final record of a world as remote from contemporary Ireland as science fiction. With Good Behaviour in 1981, she burst on a largely unsuspecting world as a charming.

wickedly witty old lady, very much Molly Keane, an independent Irishwoman and proud of it. She said then in an interview: "Ireland is the last bastion of civilisation . . , there is still great beauty, uninvaded." But she also knew the darker side of these years - a cousin was assassinated in the North by ex-SAS men who had set up as Protestant paramilitaries. Keane was very unlucky not to win the Booker Prize with

Good Behaviour, in many years she would have done so easily but it went to Salman Rushdie's Midnight's Children. She was unsurprised herself, thinking she was seen by the London literati as a right-wing old fossil, com-pared to the politically correct Rushdie. In fact, her last books do anything but celebrate the aristocratic milieu uncritically. The increasingly black element in the comedy encloses a vision of the world of the Anglo-Irish privileged as one of loneliness, futility and often despair. It may have appeared a terribly jolly life, but it was inwardly corrupt and doomed. Yet it had its own unique quality, and she chronicled its final phase better than anyone else has, better even than her great friend

Although having virtually no formal education at all, of any kind, Molly Keane was extra-

Elizabeth Bowen.

ordinarily well-informed on a huge range of topics. She was a brilliant conversationalist. She read widely, hut Jane Austen was the only mentor she acknowledged, and whose works she reread. Her little house on top of the cliff at Ardmore was her home for many years, with a fine collection of modern Irish paintings, those of

Nora Guinness in particular. Keane's social behaviour was formal, with children in particular being treated kindly but ex-pected to keep to their allotted place. Drinks were generous: she always said one of the few reasons to cut somebody was if they started putting optics on the spirits. An aggressive little dog followed her around the place. Like many Angio-Irish, she appeared profoundly upper-class English on the surface. with a deeply attractive pointed face, blue eyes of exceptional clarity and the voice of a woman in her youth. But as soon as she started to speak the illusion broke. Although a warm friend, she was never slow to point out

the faults of others. To make her books so good, she needed the dose of acid in the bloodstream as well as more conventional substances, but it did lead to a sense of foreboding and mild anxiety in the Blackwater valley sitting-rooms after Good Behaviour came out. It was fairly clear to a lot of people who the cloddish Aroon in that book was modelled on. Who would be next? Unfortunately, no one will have that flattering minor worry any

James Pettifer

Mary Nesta Skrine ("M. J. Farrell\*), playwright and novelist: born Co Kildare 20 July 1904; married 1938 Robert Keane (died 1946; two daughters); died Ard-more, Co Waterford 22 April 1996.



### Christopher Milne

Christopher Milne was a remarkable man who triumphantly survived a remarkable childhood, though not without considerable pain on the way. He was born in 1920, the son

of A.A. Milne, a rich and famous Punch writer and playwright, and his wife, Daphne. "May Billy be an everlasting joy to you," J.M. Barrie wrote, having been told the name the out, he was not, but the fault was hardly his own. "We did rather want a Rosemary," Milne had written to another friend.

Christopher Rohin, as he was actually named (he was never christened), had to wait a long time for his first haircut. But worse was to follow. In 1923, on a wet holiday in Wales, A.A. Milne started writing verse about his infant son. When We Were Very Young (1924) made Christopher Rohin a household name.

The book was an instant best-seller, By 1928, it had been joined by the two Pooh books (Winnie-the-Pooh, 1926, and The House at Pooh Corner) and a further book of verse, Now We Arc Sir (1927) - all to repeat the first book's extraordinary success and all starring the boy and his teddy-bear. Milne tried to reduce the damage by vowing in 1928 never to write another children's book, hut it was too late. He also excused himself by saying that Christopher Rohin was "Billy" at home and hardly the same person at all. "I do not want C.R. Milne ever to wish that his names were Charles Robert." But it was inevitable.

When A.A. Milne went to America in 1931 it was Christopher Robin everyone was interested in. Parents Magazine named him one of the most fa-

mous children in the world, along with Princess Elizabeth of York, Prince Michael of Romania. Yehudi Menuhin and Jackie Coogan, the film-star. In 1974. Pendennis in the Observer wrote that Christopher "had spent over 40 years trying to get off his knees from saying his prayers. Perhaps the most famous of all tiny hoys (by comparison Little Lord Fauntieroy was a mere starlet), A.A.

Milne's golden-curled son grew

up loathing the Pooh books."

This was not entirely the case, indeed, at the time be told his father he thought Pooh "a good sort of book", and he wrote himself in 1973 that as a child "I quite liked being Christopher Rohin and being famous. There were indeed times . . . when it was exciting and made me feel grand and important." "Alan's boy is quite un-spoilt," his grandfather wrote in the year Winnie-the-Pooh was published. From all accounts he was a delightful child. It was only at Stowe and later, as he grew out of his part, that he came to resent the books so fiercely and to write: "It seemed to me almost that my father had got to where he was by climbing upon my infant shoulders, that he had filched from me my

the empty fame of heing his It was the Second World War - in which he was wounded in Italy as a platoon com-mander with the Sappers - that saved Christopher Milne from the burden of being Christopher Rohin. Not long ago I met a man who had served with him in Trieste and had not known for a long time whose son he was. The war enabled Milne to become himself and eventually to

good name and had left me with

hreak away and live his own life, marrying his cousin Lesley de Selincourt and cutting himself off almost completely from his But he saw life as circular -

our journey one that should take us hack close to where we began, to the child's indivisible world in which all creatures are equal, the world we left when we went to school, as indeed Christopher Robin leaves the enchanted place on the top of the forest at the end of The House at Pooh Corner. As a child he had felt (inspired by the Doctor Dolittle books) that he might learn the language of animals. In later life he remained passionately involved in the natural world, in creatures however small. He described in The Open Garden (1988) how he had once reared the four heatherbell-like eggs a foxmoth had laid on his linger. He was immensely pleased when he was told he looked the sort of man who would be interested in a caterpillar. He knew the difference between hugle and betony. He liked night-walking and knowing the names of the

many ways, as he admitted, extremely like his father and the strength of the bond between them made the pain of breaking it all the greater. They were both essentially private people, individualists, observers, humorists. They both read Mathematics at Trinity College, Cambridge. Above all, they were both extremely good writers. Christopher never found another subject as interesting to his readers as his own life. His autobiographical writing, particularly in The Path Through the Trees (1979), has a most at-

Christopher Milne was in

first volume, the best-selling The Enchanted Places (1974), for himself (contradicting what he said on that subject in the book itself). It was soon after his mother's death, long after his father's. Each session at the typewriter was "like a session on the analyst's couch". He wrote It hoping to pre-empt future hiographers of his father, but it was the very act of writing it that eventually made it possible for him to agree to my A.A. Milne: his life. Having agreed, he made no conditions and did not see the book until it was published six years ago. His reaction

relieved us both. Writing The Enchanted Places enabled Christopher Milne to come to terms with what his father had done to him. Milne could never make similar mistakes with his own daughter, Clare, to whom he was as deeply devoted. His fa-ther had expected too much of him. Clare, a severely disabled spastic, "set us an example and taught us a philosophy that parents don't usually expect to learn from their children". He wrote "Lucky Clare to have such a mother" and we would say "Lucky Clare to have such a father". He had always been good with his hands and was able to design special cutlery and furniture for her. Once he brought home a little bank vole which amazingly entertained her for

two years and eight months. He sold his share in the future royalties he inherited from the Pooh books to the Royal Literary Fund (which already had a share) and, with the capital, set up a trust fund for her. Money never interested him and he gave much away, but he prided himself that he and his wife were

tractive candour. He wrote the self-supporting for over 20 years at the Harbour Bokshop in Dartmouth. The hy schoolboy who stammered, and who had been so unwoldly that he thought you could send a telegram from a bank, became a successful bookseller and in the Sixties a passionate speaker on children and reading at meetings of PTAs and the School Library Association. Loving Dirtmouth, he was for years Chairman of the Dartmouth and Kingswear Association.

> In recent years he performed acts of fillill piety, though pious was the last thing he ever was. He unveiled a statue of Winnie the bear cuh at the London Zoo, and was involved in the restoration of Poohsticks Bridge and in the establishment of a memoral to his father and E.H. Shepard in Ashdown Forest. He took a leading part in the fight to save the forest from development and oil exploration - not so much because of Pooh but hecause of the forest itself. He said he took the playground of his Sussex childhood with him wherever he went and if was his childhood as much as the good years of his devoted partnership with Lesley that cnafiled him to write in the preface to The Path Through the Trees that he had indeed had a happy life.

> > Ann Thwaite

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Christopher Robin Milne, bookseller and writer: born London 21 August 1920; author of The Enchanted Places 1974, The Path Through the Trees 1979. The Hollow on the Hill 1982. The Windfall 1985, The Open Garden 1988; married 1948 Lesley de Selincourt (one daughter); died Totnes, Devon 20 April 1996.

### The Right Rev Kevin Rafferty

Kevin Rafferty was one of the last Roman Catholic priests to be raised for the Scottish priesthood in Ireland, at St Kieran's College, Kilkenny. This tradition has persisted since St Kieran's opened in 1782, the first seminary to be founded in Ireland after the end of the Penal Laws which restricted Roman Catholic religious practice.

Born in Garvagh, Co Derry, in 1933, Rafferty received his secondary education at St Col-

studying for the priesthood. He was ordained priest in 1957 for the Archdiocese of St Andrews and Edinburgh in St Mary's Cathedral, Kilkenny.

'Empty fame': A. A. Milne, Winnie-the Pooh and Christopher in 1926

Rafferty was born into a family noted for its work for the Church. He had three cousins who were priests, two in Derry Diocese and one a Columban Father serving ahroad, and a niece in religious life. He was a distant relative of Bishop Bernard O'Kane of Derry, the umb's College, Derry, before noted theologian and Classics

scholar, who is also remem- Antrim, as Archbishop to St Anbered for his work in pioneering radio and his acquaintance

with Marconi. For 30 years after his ordination, Rafferty served successively in Linlithgow (1957-67). Dalkeith (1967-77) and North Berwick (1977-86). In 1989 he was appointed Vicar-General of the archdiocese of St Andrews and Edinburgh, and the following year Auxiliary Bishop. With the appointment of my-

self, a native of Ballycastle, Co

drews and Edinburgh in 1985. Cardinal Manning's recommendation to Rome in the mid-1860s that no Irish priest should ever be appointed to a Scottish diocese had at last been broken. Manning bad been appointed Apostolic Visitor to the Western District of Scotland by Propaganda Fide when a schism was threatened between the Highland Catholics and Irish

the Auxiliary Bishop was named as Bishop Kevin Rafferty.

Kevin Rafferty was ever cool. calm, collected; he had a great grasp of the teaching of the Second Vatican Council and all it entails, was tolerant and believed that the Lord is looking after the Church, whatever human failings there may be.

Although Assistant Bishop. Rafferty remained an active priest in the parish of Saints John Cantius and Nicholas. Broxburn. His pastoral care

house, Permaneni Under-Secretary,

Scottish Office, 58: Mr James Kirkup, author, 73; Dr Richard Laws, Mas-

ter. St Edmund's College, Cam-bridge, 70; Mr Tony Miles, chess

player, 41; Mr Ronald Neame, film

producer and director, 85; Professor

George Steiner, former Professor of

Comparative Literature, Oxford Uni-

versity, 67; Mr Walter Sweeney MP,

was recognised by his brother hishops in the Scottish Episcopal Conference. He held appointments as Scottish National President of the Commission for Pastoral and Social Care and as national Spiritual Director of

the St Vincent de Paul Society. One of his annual delights was taking part in both the Archdiocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes and the Easter pilgrimage with the Handicapped Children's Pilgrimage Trust - at which he assisted as recently as

Easter Week, When asked about being a working chaplain with this pilgrimage, he simply replied: "It is what I want to do. I am a priest."

† Keith Patrick O'Brien

Kevin Lawrence Rafferty, priest-born Garvagh, Co Derry 24 June 1933; ordained priest 1957; Tit-ular Bishop of Austraga and Bishop Austrian to Lauraga Bishop Auxiliary to Archbishop of St Andrews and Edinburgh 1990-96; died Livingston. West Lothian 19 April 1996.



Rafferty: cool, calm, collecter

### BIRTHS

PINDER: On 23 March 1996 to Elizabeth Cairneross and Robert Pinder. a son (Calum).

WAKEMAN: On 15 April 1996, to Ruth (née Lloyd) and Sean, a daugh-ter, Olivia Florence, a sister for

### DEATHS

WOOD: George, of Loughborough, Leicustershire aged 92 years, on 20 April 1996 after a short illness, Lec-turer LCAD and handloom builder. late of Shopshed, Leicestershire Cremation service at Loughboroug Crematorium on Friday 26 April at 12 noon, Family flowers only please,

### Births, Marriages & Deaths

hut donations if desired may be made to the Sue Ryder Hospice (cheques made payable to Sue Ryder Hospice) e/o Ginns & Gutteridge Puneral Directors, 75 Ashby Road, Lough-borough LE11 3BA, telephone 01509 238912

For Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGEN DEATHS, please ring 0171-293 2011.

Forthcoming

marriages

Mr M. Henley and Miss S. E. Piggott The engagement is announced be-tween Mark, son of Mr and Mrs Charles Henley, of Hastings, and Susanna, daughter of Mr and

Mrs Harry Piggott, of Holbrook,

ween Andrew, second son of Mr and

Mrs John Smith, of New Mills, Der-

Mr A. D. Smith and Miss C. S. Graham The engagement is announced be-

byshire, and Trinka, middle daughjer of Sir Alexander and Lady Graham, of Whitwell. Hertfordshire.

immigrant Catholics. It was an

added joy five years later when

Birthdays

Mrs Shirley Temple Black, former US ambassador, 65; The Most Rev Michael Bowen, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Southwark, 66: Mr Bill Cotton, chairman, Noel Gay Television, 68; Mr J. P. Donleaw, author. 70: Sir Diarmuid Downs, automotive engineer. 74; Mr David Evans MP. 61: Mr Harold French, actor and director, 99; Mr Leslie French, actor. singer and director, 92; Air Marshal

47: Mr Colin Welch, journalist, 72; Sir Timothy Garden, Commandant, Royal College of Defence Studies, 52: Miss Tessa Wyatt, actress, 48; Sir Eric The Hon Victoria Glendinning, au-Yarrow, former chairman, Clydesdale thor, 59: Mr William Hagerty, former Editor, the People, 57; Sir Arnold Hall, former chairman, Hawker Siddeley Group, SI; Sir Russell Hill-

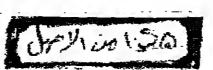
Anniversaries

Births: William Shakespeare, play-wright and poet, 1564; Vladimir Vladimirovich Nabokov, author. 1899. Deaths: William Shakespeare. playwright and poet, 1616; Miguel de Cervantes Saswedra, author, 1616. Today is the Feast Day of St Adalbert (Voitech) of Prague, Saints Felix, For-tunatus and Achilleus. Sr George the Martyr, St Gerard of Toul and St Ibar. ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS The Duke of Edinburgh, Trustee, Nation-

The Dune in guinourgh, Trustee, National Maritime Museum, attends a reception at St James's Palace; as President and Honorary Life Fellow of the Royal Society for orary Life Fellow of the Royal Society for the Encouragement of Aris, Manufactures and Commence, chairs the 1996 Prince Philip Lecture, Inflowed by dinner, at 8 Julin Adam Street, London WC2. The Prince of Wates begins an official visit to Canada, visiting the Privatess of Manitoba, New Brunswick and Ontario. The Princess Royal, Patron, Sense - the National Deafflind and Rubella Association, visits Yiggl Handr. School Unit, Brynoch, West Glamurgan, as President, Brush Knitting and Chithing Esport Council, visits Alan Patro Knitwear Ltd. Autmanford, Dyfed. Princess Margaret, President, attends a Princess Margaret and Princess Margaret attends a Princess A Princes Princes Margaret, President, attends a Pri-

vate View of the exhibition "Leonaro da Vinci: 100 Drawings from the Collector of Her Majesty The Queen", in aid & the National Society for the Provention of Cruelty to Children, at the Queen's Gillery. London SW1. The Duchess of Glouester visits the Whitely Homes Trust's Whitely Villages, Walton-on-Thames, Surrey. Prince Michael of Kent, Grand Mater of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Jasons. the Grand Lodge of Mark Master of opens the new building at Rickmassworth Masonic School.

Changing of the Guard The Household Cavalry Mounted Regi-ment mounts the Queen's Life Soard at Horse Guards, 11am; F Company Scots Guards mounts the Queen's Guard, at anchingham Palace, 11 30am, and pro-vided by the trish Guards.



May be the second

# How liberal is new Labour?

Blair and Jack Straw will beat the law and order drum all the way to the election. Is their new conservatism a ploy to make the party more electable or does it reflect a deep-dyed Victorian moralism? Polly Toynbee reports

ow you see it, now you don't. New Labour flashes a bright coin before our eyes, only to flick it away as soon as we reach out to grasp it. Key words, ideas, sentiments and symbols are little before us full of similification. lit up before us, full of significance, moral catchphrases pregnant with diaphanous meaning – single parents, squeegee merebants, crime, bad neighbours, community and self-reliance. But as soon as we challenge them and ask what they mean, what policy, what practical applications? Then

the words vanish again like a mirage.
They have served their purpose, just by being spoken. The party has planted an idea, staked out a territory and told the world that new Labour is moral, sensible, not chained to the politically correct and far removed from the bad old days of the GLC's myriad minority committees. But has Labour's traditional role as standardbearer for liberal progressive values departed, 100? Or is it merely hiding behind the conjuror's fingers?

Like playing on a xylophone of our sen-sibilities, Labour has brilliantly struck raw Tory voting nerves, beating out a new tune that is often distinctly right wing in timbre: Christian Democrat, churchy, decent, dis-

Christian Democrat, churchy, decent, disciplinarian and orderly (Straw: "The first duty of any government should be the guarantee of a quiet life").

Gone is the praise for pluralism, freedom and diversity, that instinctive liberal siding with the under-dog. Sometimes the under-dog or "aggressive beggar" even gets under-dog or "aggressive beggar" even gets an extra kicking from Labour. Do they mean all this, or is it just the cleverly seductive music of vote-getting?

We do not know. No policy is set, no promises made and different players play different tunes to suit their audiences. We can only guess at what the final symphony

It would be quite wrong to imagine, though, that Labour was ever a happily lib-eral party. Harold Wilson lead a canny coalition of Hampstead and Huyton, the chattering classes coming to an accommodation with the cloth caps, encom-passing both Roy Jenkins the radical reformer, and Jim Callaghan the policeman's friend. There was a tacit trade-off: the illiberal "hang 'em, flog 'em" cloth caps agreed to let the chatterers abolish capital punishment and anti-homosexual laws in exchange for the closed shop and col-

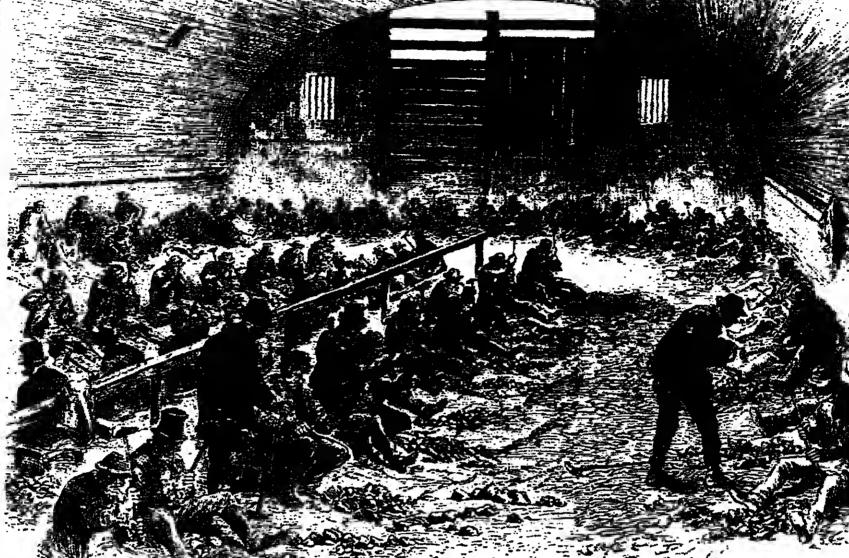
lective bargaining.

All that fell apart in chaos when Michael Foot could restrain neither a trade unionism that had become rampant and irresponsible nor a liberal left that had been overrun by the right-on lunacies of the likes of Ken Livingstone.

Now lony Blair emerges as the ing phoenix, not rebuilding the old party but creating a new one. Yet in Hampstead they fear that liberal interests have been abandoned in a new marriage of convenience that excludes them altogether the self-interest and crude populism of Essex wedded to the morality of the Christian Church. Neither of these is to

. : . :

It has fallen to Paddy Ashdown to fire a warning shot in a thoughtful, but impassioned speech last month, staking out a clear Liberal Democrat claim to those old liberal values left behind by new Labour. While making clear his broad approval for most of what new Labour stands for - after all, he hopes to do husiness with them he has found some clear pink water that



The 19th-century workhouse: Tony Blair believes in workfare because it is morally uplifting for the unemployed

gives voting Liberal a genuinely different flavour. He plants the thought that the best possible outcome of the next election would be New Labour in coalition with Lib Dems, vote-catching Christianity tempered by decent caring old unelectable beralism.

Ashdown points with alarm to Labour's infatuation with American communitarianism and the work of Amitai Etzioni, ine hi priest of new left moralism. He fears this tyranny of the majority crushes any senting voice, ruling by collective shame through the

law of the lace curtain. Lib Dems distrust Labour's commitment to constitu-

tional reform: for them, it is the only true guarantee that locks genuine pluralism into politics for ever. Ashdown looks with anxiety at Labour's eagerness to make a scapegoat of the underclass. He despises the way Labour

avoids unpopular issues of conscience.

While he spoke up boldly for the rights of

around the Far East that missed out tricky Hong Kong altogether and he came back

Hong Kong citizens to come to Britain, side of the losers as well as the wealth-cre-Labour did not. Tony Blair took a trip ators? Hattersley sets his benchmark for the party's liberal values: "The two great liberal tests are the party's attitudes to eth-

ators? Hattersley sets his benchmark for instead full of alarming praise for orderly nic minorities and immigration law, and Singaporean values, where chewing gum, penal reform. I understand why electoral

them. Hardly had I opened my mouth lo ask to see the party's liberal credentials than he hastened to ladle out praise for Roy Jenkins as the greatest reforming Home Secretary of all time - on private sexual behaviour, on race and capital punishment.

> It is easy now to praise with these long-dead forms, but where are his own hrave and unpopular policies, pursued fearlessly for justice their alone? What might equivalent hravery be now? Perhaps a will-

Illustration: Hulton Getty

this admiration of

ingness to open a debate, at least, on legalising cannabis? Perhaps a meaningful discourse on the future of the monarchy? On these things much of the country rumi-nates - hut not Parliament, and certainly not new Labour.

"I am well aware of how I am perceived," Jack Straw says, with a rueful he talks smile. A list follows: he voted to lower the

homosexual age of consent to 16; he was brought up very well by a single mum, and sees no problem with one-parent families per se ("although I know that's not Tony's

view").

He would repeal "most of" the Asylum Bill and make immigration law fairer. Would everyone born here be given back the right to citizenship? "We haven't finally decided." On penal reform, as the prison population has rocketed under Howard can be say whether it will come down again under his policies? No, he can't say for sure.

His critics say he follows Michael Howard like a true shadow, no glimmer of daylight between them. He replies that if Michael Howard devotes himself singlemindedly to digging large elephant traps for Labour – the Asylum Bill is a prime example - he is not going to be stupid enough to oblige them by jumping in.

Times have changed since Jenkins' day, Looking back at both Labour and Tory old manifestos, crime barely featured although it tops voters concerns. Many colleagues who are deeply liberal by instinct have had the sobering experience of confronting desperate Labour voters on estates plagued by marauding gangs of youths, unchecked by police or courts. What is "liberal" about letting communities of decent poor people suffer at their

In the end, though, we are left looking into his cyes, listening to the spaces between his words and guessing what kind of Home Secretary he will be. In the end, despite the necessary law-and-order sabre-rattling, it is probable that he will make a respectably liberal fist of it. After Howard, he will blow like a cool wind of reason through the fetid air of the Home Office corridors. He may not mean what some of his words seek to suggest, but he is a Wilsonian figure, delicately balancing reasonable freedom with reasonable con-

cern about crime.

Now does Tony Blair really mean what he says? Little of what he has said can be pinned on him. In one useful sound bite he is "the party of the family", but with the next brealb he explains this means praclical help for working mothers - so the magic coin "family values" is cleverly displayed in a public place.

The Haltersley tendency says Blair

means what he says.

One says: "He is all of a piece and not

pretending. He does quite like the idea of bad young men being marched about in camps. He has a passion about single parents and a genuine anxiety for the welfare of their disadvantaged children. Workfare appeals to him because it is for the real moral good of the unemployed. He would play the Good Samaritan, but would feel obliged to ask penetrating questions about whether the victim had contributed in some way to his plight."

There is little cynicism in Tony Blair, it comes from the heart and that is what scares old liberals. They would rather believe this was all a clever electoral trick: once in power he will cast off his cloak and with one bound we shall all be free. But that Victorian moralism is deep-dyed. It demands a halance between rights and responsibilities, between individualism and community, between family and sexual liberty, discipline and freedom. In this he talks not only to the electors, but

### How much will you be taxed?

In the run-up to the 1992 election Hamish McRae launched a devastating critique of Labour's tax plans. In tomorrow's Independent he runs his slide rule over Gordon Brown's plans to calculate the top rate of tax you are likely to pay under a Tony Blair government. So if you want to know how much Labour will take from your pay packet, don't miss his analysis.

spitting and graffiti earn the lash, and conformity is the one great social value. Roy Hattersley has, with some self-

mockery, set up his stall as the "New Left". He and plenty of other backbench voices worry that Labour has lost interest in the under-dogs, those without rights and power. In government, will it be a radical reforming party? Will it be clearly on the

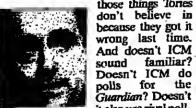
pressures make the party cautious on both but it is absolutely essential they take a strong stand."

These tests will fall upon the Home Sec-retary, so it is Jack Straw who draws the fire and fury from Labour's old liberals, as he heats the law and order drum to please the Essex crowds. He, though, is as quick with the disappearing coin as any of

does it

### For Tories, it's a matter of opinion

Brían Mawhinney (below), the Conservative Party chairman, has hired ICM to carry out opinion polls in the run-up to the election. You know, opinion polls, those things Tories don't believe in



sound familiar? Doesn't ICM do for the Guardian? Doesn't it also use rival pollster NOP's field force for face-to-face interviews? And doesn't NOP work for the Labour Party? "I think they'll use a different subcontractor for their Tory

wrong last time.

party work," says a well-placed source.

I hear that some of the Tory campaign team preferred the presentation from Harris, the only other firm to pitch for the work. The team included Sir Tim Bell, Margaret Thatcher's favourite PR man, Peter Gummer, another PR man and brother of the Environment Secretary, Charles Lewington, the new head of communications at Conservative Central Office, and Tim Collins, his predecessor, now a Tory candidate but retained as a consultant by Dr Mawhinney.

Harris offered a new technique called trade-off analysis. This works by offering interviewees choices between "non-ideal scenarios", such as higher taxes or worse schools. This was of course totally unrealistic because under the Tories you can have both. So Dr Mawhinney took the closely-guarded secret decision to hire ICM.

But why them? Could it be that ICM happens to use a technique for adjusting its polling figures which has produced the most pro-Tory results of any of the main polling companies.

### Words to the slaughter

The newspeak of Orwell's 1984 lives. At the Select Committee on Agricul-

Current affairs and a ture and Health, three gentlemen from the "mest processing industry" were
putting np a spirited defence, likening
their work to that nf the "medical profession". But it was their term for
abattoir workers – the chaps who
abattoir workers – the chaps who

chop up the carcasses - which showed Wales winning the Bafta prize for Best Talk Show. Talk show? Probing, incisive their real mastery of newspeak. They are not slaughterhouse workers, mais interview with great relevance to the connon. They are "meat engineers". stitution and future of the monarchy, George Orwell, eat your heart out. So surely. There I was labouring under the delusion that Panorama might want to



No longer the willing laird

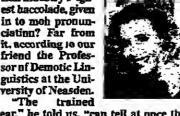
Fancy a fully restored Georgian nee classical mansion in Dr. of Restored with levely personned setting and sporting links? The Olympic gold metal runner. Steve Orall has put his Scottish stately home on the market and is asking 11 July 10: 4. Transcount House in Annan was built in 1812 for the Marquess of Overasticing (best known for inventing the rules for boung) and designed by Sir Robert Smirke, architect of the British Museum. It came into Overt's hands in the build Eighties when he bounds in for \$750,000 for Eighties when he bought it for £750,000 from an absentee Australian. Olympic running is, of course, an amateur sport. But Ovett won largaine contracts for TV work in America following his successes. Eight years and in estimated further £360,000 later has sestored if to American sand to instrument outlier could be set us use essention to American scandings inches pool, gyn, sansa and sames room — and an orangery, bullism food, avery, hairs garden and same about thrown in. The cost of running the masses a paid for by a lacrative holiday comage business in the community that beings in £100,000 a year. Why Over decaded to go and live in a 10-beamont house in Scotland is not clear but according to his estate agent. James Marcalo, it is no longer practical: "He is very busy traveling, doing to marchary and work with the international athletic boards." The future owner tan also beast another famous link, although not of the sporting kind. Oscar White was a frequent visitor and it was his association with the Marquess of Outensberry's sun, Lord Alfred Douglas, that led to his imprisonment:

be considered in the best documentary category, or best factual series. But now we know. Panoruma is in fact a talk show, with the higgest budget the BBC has ever given to a talk show. Panorama's editor, Steve Hewlett, tells me: "It wasn't a talk show in the conventional sense, but it's a big prize and we're delighted." If it really was so keen to throw off its current affairs pedigree, then surely it should have entered the Princess of Wales interview under a more appropriate category - best drama? Not quite. Best light entertainment? Almost. Best

### Emma's 'ere

Who could fail to be impressed with the way Emma Thumpson's accent at the Bafta awards had journeyed further down the road towards Bow. Has Emma (below), the proud winner of the Brilish

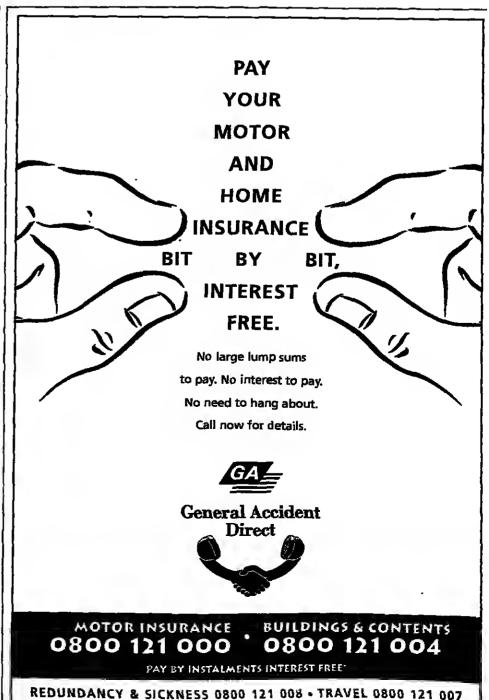
film industry's 'igh-est haccolade, given in to mon pronunciatinn? Far from it, according to our friend the Professor of Demotic Linguistics at the Uni-



ear," he told us, "can tell at once that Miss Thompson's consonantal lacuna in the middle of the word 'British' is a long way from being the glottal stop of a dropped t. Nor is it the pregiottal Teutonie Verschlussland, so beloved of Mr Freddie Trueman in the npening aspiration of such words as 'Ampshire'. For ber, the '1' in 'British' is not so much dropped as casually cast aside in what we term 'Rada Cockney' and replaced by a gently articulated allophone of a quality that I have detected in only one other

He paused to give added effect to his final revelation. "I think you'll find, if you listen carefully," he said, "that the sound of Emma's neo-Cockneyite 't' is precisely the same glottal occlusion that come between 'an' and the Bottomley 'otel'."

**Eagle Eye** 



Weekdays 8am - 8pm, 5at 9am - 5pm. 🖾 📆

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### Italy turns left to normality

The Cold War ended in Berlin in 1989. except in Italy, where it came to a close early yesterday. The centre-left has won a famous general election victory whose symbolism outweighs the coalition's lack of a clear majority in the leg-islative assembly. Since the Second World War, the "loss" of Italy to the Marxist left was a spectre that haunted the corridors of power, from the Vatican to the State Department in Washington. The remarkable performance of Communists in Italian local government was one thing; they had to be kept out of Rome.

No longer. They have changed as the world has changed around them. Earlier this month President Bill Clinton said, in a throwaway remark, he could live with a left victory: it was as significant in its way as the Catholic hishops' declaration of neutrality in the contest. What used to be Westero Europe's strongest Communist Party now confronts power in a capitalist democracy, albeit shared with the technocrats, bankers and industrialists who sit on the bushy branches of the centre-left's "Olive Tree" coalition.

This is a further step in the delivery of Europe from the old politics of an era now over. Here, it cast a heavy shadow over the Eurosceptic assertion that an anti-EMU, anti-Brussels tide is running on the Continent. Of course the "European" dimension to politics in each of the memher states belies easy generalisation. Yet in Italy there is what is sadly lacking in this country, a broad and open agreement between left and right on how essential it is for both Italy as exporter and Italy the moderniser to deepen the European connection. It is hard not to be impressed by the sense, south of the Alps, of how the European Union still rides the wave of the

The Olive coalition has much mettle to prove. Everything depends on the Party of the Democratic Left, as the former Communists call themselves. Will Massimo D'Alema pull the trick so stylishly accomplished a decade ago by Felipe Gonzalez in Spain and make the left, for a while at

Tree's Prime Minister-designate, the project is "capitalism tempered by public initiative". It remains to be seen whether that amounts to a recognition, now widely accepted by the left elsewhere, of the power of international money and markets. One thing is for sure, in a country that has recently moved to abandon exchange

controls, acceptance cannot be far off. Reforming the state's parious finances will be vital if Italy is to meet the Maas-tricht criteria for economic and monetary union. The lira's recent appreciation against the German mark will not absolve the Italian government from making inroads into a public debt that is almost exactly twice what the Germans - and the markets - consider safe. In the election Romano Prodi found impressive amounts of common ground with Silvio Berlusconi over tax reform. But backing through Italy's rank undergrowth of taxes will require Mr Prodi to see off interest groups, which may include entire regions.

After fiscal reform, the priority is political and constitutional reform. On the good governance list are further privatisation, the reform of corporate governance (a Prodi speciality) and crime and corruption. The last two are related. The scandal of modern Italy remains the impoverishment of the south, and the continuing potency of organised crime. This agenda of political reform will test any

Few Italian politicians have clean hands - even Mr Prodi has allegations hanging over his bead. The hothouse of Roman politics is not suddenly going to cool. It is likely that, like many other Italian governments before, this one will suffer from scandals and splits.

Yet that should not hlind us to the historical import of the left's final accession to power. The regrouping and rise of the left must be healthy for Italian democracy. And what is good for Italy, a member of G7 and often (if the British government could ever do Euro-polítics properly) a British ally within the Union, is good for



There is a rumour that Sir Alastair Morton, the chairman of Eurotunnel. may be one of the last members of a lonely band of interoational socialists known as Trotskvites who stand outside shopping centres on a Saturday morning selling propaganda sheets and railing against the power of international banks. Sir Alastair has been far more successful in hitting international finance capital where is hurts than a century of angry Marxists. He has borrowed huge sums from the banks, between £8bn and £9hn is the latest estimate. Yesterday he confirmed what they already knew that he would not be able to repay much if any of the interest, let alone the principal.

Sir Alastair's place in history is assured. Arrogant and domineering, with a huge appetite for rows, nevertheless he has got the tunnel built and operating without the taxpayer stumping up the money. There has always been a suspicion that Sir Alastair believed the important thing was to get the tunnel built; how it was paid for would be a side issue.

It will not feel like a side issue for thousands of private investors who have lost their money. One once fashionable broker's theory was that the tunnel would be

The arrival in London from Bris-

L tol of the play Twelve Angry Men

must have come as a surprise to all

those who knew only the great film

starring Henry Fonda and hadn't

realised that this courtroom drama

also had a life as a play. They will be

even more surprised to learn that

there is an even more obscure play

called Twelve. Angry Young Mcn which

In an effort to revive interest in this

lost masterpiece, I am bringing you an

extract today and hope it may whet

someone's appetite. Ladies and gentlemen. Twelve Angry Young Men.

The scene is set in a small coffee house

in the 1950s. Sitting around, angrily try-

ing to make a cup of espresso last as

long as possible, are such young men

Juhn Osborne: Have a biscuit, then.

Wain: Not hungry - angry! Aren't you

Osborne: Yes. But mostly with my

John Braine: I'm angry too. God, I'm

angry! Alan Sillitoe: Call yourself angry? You

you're going to be angry and young

as Kingslev Amis. John Wain, etc.

Juhn Wain: God. I'm angry!

mother.

has never been revived or filmed.

like a property investment: a large loss at the outset would be more than offset by steady rental income and a rise in the value of the asset. Instead it has turoed into a bottomless pit.

Many of the banks will rue the day they ever opened their doors to Sir Alastair. especially the hapless Japanese banks, who bought into the project mainly to please their political masters in Tokyo.

The travelling public have good reason to be happy. We have an excellent tunnel and more competition across the Channel, which is driving down prices. In the long run the symbolic and cultural value of the tunnel to European integration may

We may yet pay however, if the calamity of the tunnel makes it more difficult to mobilise private finance for public investment. Private finance helps to inject cost discipline. Had the tunnel been built with public money the cost over-runs would have been far greater. And eventually we will pay because the banks will find some way of passing on the costs. But for the moment we should sit back and bask in the wonder of Sir Alastair's achievement of persuading the banks to buy us our wonderful new tunnel.

and a man, you might as well get your

grammar right.
Sillitoe: I don't care about your south-

ero grammar! You can sell out if you

like, Wainl You sicken me! You can

talk proper and end up in Oxford. if

you like! I'm northern and I'm angryl

Braine: Northern? Do you call Not-

tingham northero? That looks like the

bloody Midlands from Bradford,

Kingsley Amis: Listen, lads, we'll

never get anywhere if we hicker and

fight. This is all very angry, but we're only being angry with each other.

Braine: And what is that purpose, O

Amis: What do you mean, "O posh

where I come from!

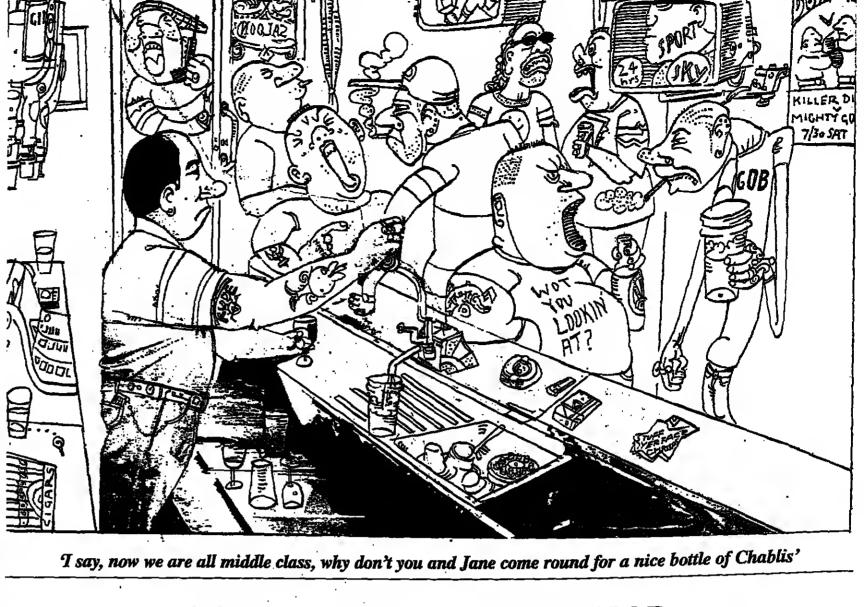
posh one?

haven't seen angriness till you've seen me!

Wain: The word is "anger", Alan. If you're going to be angry and young middle-class books, you like poncy middle-class books, you like poncy

We're here for a purpose.

All in favour of black sweaters, say 'aye'



### - LETTERS TO THE EDITOR -

### Lebanon: pawn in an endless war game

Sir: I was interested to hear that on Monday 15 April Michael Portillo "would not regard the Israeli reaction as disproportionate". From Thursday 11 April to Tuesday 16 April I was in Lebanon, I was in the home of a Lebanon family and had no answer to the tearful cry of their 14-year-old daughter, "Why are they doing this to our country again?"

I could only listen in silence to the lament of my friend as be faced hundreds of refugees seeking shelter in his school that was due to reopen for students the next day after the Easter holiday. And much of that listening was done in the dark as Israeli rockets had destroyed two power stations in Beirut that had been rebuilt earlier this year after the expenditure of millions of pounds. I stood in the Bekaa valley and watched Israeli war planes circling overhead throughout the day,

No money to save

KATHRYN BAIRD

Publicity Officer

Conservation Officers

traditional jazz and you don't smell

like an angry young man to me.

Amis: Oh, come on! Lucky Jim was a

very angry novel. Picture Post said so.

Braine: Angry, my arse. Jim Dixon was

about as angry as a National Service-man who finds the pubs have just shut.

Tyuan: Hi there, you angry young things! Anyone finished any plays today that I can take away and plug?

Tynan: I like it! Keep the anger up!

Amis: Listen, everybody, this is get-

ting nowhere. I propose we have a

vote. All those in favour of heing angry? All those against? Right, that's

11 for being angry ... and me against. Arnold Wesker: Bloody hell! There's

always one, isn't there? Always one

smart ass who thinks who knows bet-

ter. Tell us, Kingsley, wby you aren't

angry?
Amis: Because one day I want to grow

up. I want to have prizes for my nov-els and have my collected letters

published. I want to join the Garrick and write about wine seriously ...

Colin Wilson: You'll be telling us you want a knighthood next.

Amis: Too bleeding right, mate.

Wain: May I just say something?

Kenneth Tynan looks in.

Osborne: Piss off!

He pisses off.

At this moment the door opens and

Association of

Brighton,

heritage at risk

RICHARD CLARK

their destruction - unchallenged, for Lebanon has no air force. This is not Lebanon's war and Lebanon cannot stop it. The war

will only stop when the world puts enough pressure on Israel and Syria that they stop treating Lebanon as a pawn in their endless war game and sort out their differences around the table instead of through the buffer of an innocent people. I returned to Britain saddened at what I bad seen and angered at the indifference of so many of the world's so-called superpowers.

Maybe after the continuing slaughter, which now includes the killing of UN soldiers and refugees who had taken shelter with them, the Israeli response will be seen for what it is - disproportionate. But bow much better if that had been the response of the world at the beginning.

Sir: Naomi Katz writes (letter, 17 April) that "people have short memories". There appears to be a tendency to forget that Israel was created without the consent of the Palestinian people who inhabited this region for centuries. Any person who settles in Israel should reasonably expect some measure of resistance from the Palestinians and groups sympathetic to their cause, as is the case with any invaded territory. Israel was created by sbeer military might and has continued to exist through this power.

**ALESSANDRO ANSA** Aston, Birmingham

Sir: As long as the Jews are perceived as victims, peace and justice will never be achieved in the Middle East.

YAHYA SHEIKHO

### Benefits outweigh bypass damage

Sir: English Heritage is to be applauded for its initiative in Devon and Cornwall bave been bypassed. The results refute recording Buildings at Risk (photograph, 18 April) and the majormost of the arguments of the ity of local authorities have now Newbury protesters. The envicompleted Buildings at Risk surronmental impact has been veys. The scale of disrepair and acceptable even where it occurs neglect revealed by these is truly appalling. What is ironic is that in National Trust or National Park land. Nor have the bypasses become overloaded. Even the English Heritage is now virtually withdrawing from all further Plympion bypass out of Plymonth, now 20 years old, is still quite adequate despite being Buildings at Risk grants, leaving local authorities throughout the land with an admirable collection reduced from six to four lanes because of concrete cancer on a of printouts but with no resources

to tackle the problem. Surely this was not the point of the exercise. major bridge.
There has been virtually no satellite or ribbon development If English heritage cannot provide these essential grants, can we on the bypasses. Both counties have a virtual embargo on such bope that the rules for lottery funding will be changed to allow development and the ministry resources to be directed to this most threatened part of our

has backed them up. Many of the towns freed from continuous Post letters to Letters to the Editor, and include a daytime telephone number. (Fax: 0171-293 2056; e-mail: letters@

independent.co.uk) Letters may

be edited for length and clarity.

Shelagh Delaney: I don't believe it! This is crazy! We met to decide how

Amis: I didn't know there were any

Amis: Take Braine with you. He can

A fight breaks out, and Braine and

Armis are separated, fairly easily, by

Wilson: I don't know about the rest

of you, but I'm an angry young man

because it's easier to dress that way.

Wain: And a copy of Existentialism Made Easy For Children in English. I

don't believe you've ever read Sartre

at all. I don't think you're even angry.

Wilson: You're right. I'm just bored.

I want to change my vote to non-angry

and get out of here ... Etc. etc. etc. until Act Two, when

Kenneth Tynan comes back and finds

write Room at the Tap for you!

Colin Wilson and John Osborne.

A black sweater is all you need.

Brame: Listen, you nerd ...

even going back on that!

Men?

Sir: Over the past 20 years nearly all the towns and many of the villages on the A30 and A38 in one of the fastest-developing towns in the country, not only as a commuter suburb of Plymouth but with much industrial devel-opment of its own. So much so that last year BR reopened the station there that had been closed

for many years.

The benefit in cutting pollution has been equally dramatic. I can now drive from near Truro to Perth, Swansea, Dover or Newcastle in economy fifth gear all the way, instead of grinding through towns having to use first and second gear. Even with the lower car population of 20 years ago I once took 12 hours from London to here, which now takes less than five.

W K STEAO Falmouth. Cornwall

### Higher taxes can still be good value

Sir: You say (leading article, 16 April) that we should see paying tax as a duty or obligation. To me it is the same as any other personal expenditure - to satisfy a want. In the same way that I pur-chase food, clothing and the other necessities of life I want to purchase my share of a first-Wain: I want to change my vote to non-angry. Kingsley has a good point. Amis: That's 10-2. class education system, a com-prehensive health service, good public transport, social security provision and all the other pubto develop our anger and now we're lic services of a civilised society. Furthermore, I am quite prépared to pay more than I do at present for these desirable comwomen present. Since when have we modities. It goes without saying that I expect them to be provided started letting girls be Angry Young Delaney: How dare you! Come on, Arnold! I'm not standing up for this a moment longer! Let's go and start the Kitchen Sink Draith way Meent. efficiently, whether by the public or private sector.

### Unfair to cowboys

Sir: The vilification of cowboys ("Classroom Cowboys", letter, 17 April) has gone on for far too long and it is high time it came to an end - just imagine the uproar there would be had you referred to "classroom shepherds". The derogatory use of the job description "cowboy" must surely contravene one or other of the many pieces of recent legislation - equal opportunities or race relations? And another thing, should it not be "cowperson"?

MAURICE MORGAN Huddersfield, West Yorkshire

### Green farm aid fails to add up

The field was in arable crop-

ping in December 1991; that makes it eligible for arable aid. Because it was in crops it obviously earned no livestock quota. For the farmer using chemicals this field could continue in arable crops and therefore continue to receive arable aid. Using organic methods it is not possible to keep it in continuous exploitative cropping; after three years of cereals we had to return it to four years of grass and clover to rebuild fertility, but that means livestock something not economical without quota. Other suitable fields cannot be swapped with this one because they are not eligible for arable aid. We have no surplus quota, Having already lowered our stocking to become organic.

numbers. If we abandoned organic methods (after 22 years) and used sprays and fertilisers on this field we would receive hetween £108.12 and £210.59 per acre or £3,676 and £7,160 per annum depending on the crop we chose
- a potential £28,640 over the

our quota was based on reduced

four years. I am sure the current subsidy system was not conceived to penalise organic farmers. But

Sir: Do organic farmers get a raw deal on subsidy? (Comment, 9 April). Let me give the example of a 34-acre field on our farm.

because those who drew it up knew or thought little about the technical aspects of organic production, the end result is that we. and most organic farmers, are

RICHARD YOUNG Broadway, Worcestershire

Sir: It is wrong to say that "organic farming relies on the use of organic fertilisers" ("Go organic? Let us spray ...", 10 April). Organic farming relies on sustaining the fertility of the soil, by enhancing and stimulating microbial activity and encouraging the presence of humus. Of course animal manures play a vital part but, since organic farm-ing by definition is rotational, the manures are normally produced on the farm as part of the operation, and not brought in from outside.

Organic farmers everywhere are closely in touch with their customers; and the proliferation of vegbox schemes" which supply organic food that is really fresh at low prices to all sorts of housebolds, has been one of the most exciting changes in food marketing in recent years, and is driving the introduction of new schemes to make more land available for the production of the increased supplies that are needed.

HILARY JONES Egerton, Kent

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### Iragi opposition denies bombings

Sir. We refer to Patrick Cockburo's article "Clinton hacked Baghdad bombers" (26 March). Before offering this reply, we had to review the two versions of the video film on which Mr Cockhurn based his article.

The story is a cheap attempt by those who produced the video and passed additional misinformation to Mr Cockhurn to defame the Iraqi National Accord and its leadership We wonder if Mr Cockburn has any additional evidence, apart from a video made by an unidentified person who goes under the pseudonym of Ahu Amneh al-Khadami. The harsh living conditions in Iraqi Kurdistan push many people to desperate mea-sures to survive. The production

of this video is one such example. Most of the video is taken up by innuendoes about who paid whom and how much is owed to him for his imaginary services. Those who understand Iraqi dialect would notice that Mr Khadami states that Al-Wifaq (Iraqi National Accord) has no capability of making bombs and have not been involved in any operation inside Iraq. He claims that he and his team alone are capable of perpetrating such

Mr Khadami has never been a member of INA, and we have not at any time, neither do we intend now to enter into any bombing campaign or activities that might endanger the life of innocent civilian Iraqis. If Mr Kadhami was involved in a bombing campaign in Baghdad or Mosul, then it must have been on behalf of

other organisations. Who produced hundreds of copies of the video for distribution in Iraq Kurdistan, and who produced over 2,000 copies in Holland and posted them to Iraqis in the UK. Europe and USA? We believe this is a wellorchestrated campaign against

the INA and its leaders. S A SHAIKHLY Iraqi National Accord London SW2

### **Dummies for** brilliant babies

Sir. The apparent connection between dummies and low IQ (report, 19 April) is susceptible to

a simple explanation. Until recently, dumnies were regarded as unhygienic and teethdeforming, setting up expecta-tions of instant gratification in the child and a lazy expedient for the mother. Thus, only stupid moth-ers gave them to their babies. Such mothers might reasonably be expected to produce a higher number of low-IQ children. Now that dummies have been rendered respectable by the child-care gurus, and are given to their babies by highly intelligent pro-fessional women, it would not be surprising to find, in 20 years' time, that such babies had higher IO scores than others IQ scores than others. DORAINE POTTS

Sir: My son has an honours degree in English and philosophy, an MA in English and in his spare time is studying for a master's in media studies.

If only I hadn't let him suck a dummy, who knows the heights to which he would have risen. MARGARET WAKELING Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire

### Lakeland haiku

Sir: Further to the discussion of haiku (Letters, 18 April), it is worth noting that Wordsworth used the 5-7-5 syllable form in the two known Lakeland examples.

Sheep in Grasmere Vale Suffer intimations of Immortality

Helvellyn looks big From the far off lake: up close It looks bloody huge

After such a promising start, it is a pity he never continued, but then he would never say in 17 syllables what he could say in 170.

GLYN MATTHEWS Windermere, Cumbria

Jry100150

### Why one man's beef is good for us all

James Goldsmith's call for a referendum on Europe highlights the gap between people and politicians

Why is Sir James Goldsmith like a mad cow? The answer is that both are pushing the argument about European integration out of the Tory party and into the consciousness of the nation as a whole. The anti-Conservative referendum compaign and popular anger over the beef han are breaking open Eurosceptic politics. From now on, they represent some-thing that will have to be resolved by the people, rather than simply by the government whips' office.

This is good news, though it may not feel that way for many decent, pro-European politicinns. The beef industry, like the plight of the British fishing fleet, is one of those issues that generally has negative chattering class appeal. Among the metropolitan political élite it is a low-interest subject: it can leap briefly to the top of the political agenda when a public health disaster seems possible, but then it sinks away. It has none of the perennial interest of say, John Major's relations with Kenneth

Away from Westminster, however. it looms very large indeed. It interests people and affects them in a basic way. It is just the sort of issue that, coming at a critical moment, can change national perceptions about

Dissident politicians can bang on for ever about Maastricht, or the sovereignty of Parliament or the Single European Act, and fail to stir the vast uninterest of middle Britain. But beef bans and the possibility of retaliation against French apples, or wine, or whatever, rouses instant attention. It twists the lion's tail. It raises old, half-dead devils.

rm and talls to add up

. . . . . .

1,000

in some ways this is regrettable. It smacks of populism and illogic. Should we really he blaming European commissioners, rather than our own standards on the use of animal feed and pesticides, for what happened to beef farms? The Com-mon Fisheries Policy has damaged the interests of trawler crews and coastal towns around Britain; but the shortage of Atlantic and North Sea fish has more to do with a technol-ogy that has grown too good for its own good.

Yet our national fright when the BSE story first broke has been quickly replaced by national outrage at the European ban that followed it. A public health story has jumped the journalistic species-harrier to become a story about European integration. It is as if our emotional reaction to the fear of brain-rotting meat has been transferred. Though this was a nightmare hatched at home, already the blame has been shifted, and the direc-tion of the shift is significant.

Nor is the shift occurring only on the right of politics. Hear the Oxford councillor John Power, a Lahour man, on the need for the town to suspend its twinning links with Bonn, Leiden and Grenoble, as reported by Oxford's student paper: "The destruction of our beef industry is being carried out with malice by our so-called European partners. So what is the point of our country pledging peace, friendship and co-operation with these cities?" I cite this not to single Mr Power out for mockery though he deserves to be mocked -

hut because he says what many think. If post-war European politics has



ANDREW MARR

A politics that forgets jobs and democracy is dangerous stuff

mankind's old habit of hlaming the strange-vowelled folk next door for local fadures, then all this stuff about beef and fish is mere regression. For nearly half a century, smooth politi-cians and diplomats have been trying to calm this savage spirit.
But the island tribes have their

truth, too. In this case, if the proposal is that authority should be passed to a supranational level, in order to achieve greater prosperity, but without a difficult democratic argument first, then Britain may be the first country to say no. But we will not be

Enter Sir James Goldsmith, stage right, ice-blue eyes alight, demanding a referendum on "who governs Britain?" He don't want to fight, but, by jingo, if be do, he has the men, he has the £20m and he has the manifesto, too.

Except, of course, that he does want to fight. Having had the opportunity trade, I have no illusions about his capacity. Mocked, feared and reviled by some, he is a man of huge energy and serious intelligence. Like many business tycoons, it is not a reflective intelligence, but a focused, passionate one. His mind is less a library than an armoury - a gleaming fact-bunker, bang up to date and stocked for

offensive operations.

He seems determined to help split
the Tory party and grab his place in history as someone who forced the European issue into the forefront of a general election. As a protectionist and an environmentalist, he makes odd company for almost all the Tory right. Government ministers splutter incoherently about the outrage of Sir James as a rich man trying to buy his way into a political argument. So, they are against opinionated billionaires all of a sudden? What about the guys who fund their party and their

Sir James, meanwhile, is lucky in his timing: the Government is flailing desperately and under terrible internal pressure from its dissident nationalists. Their would-be teader, John Redwood, is to talk about a referendum with Goldsmith. The Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, is already being vindicated in his misgivings about the ratebet-effect of conceding a limited referendum ton the single currency) and then being put under pressure to go further.

But the current "pro-European" and "anti-European" positions on the referendum question are almost entirely the wrong way round. If the question is asked Goldsmith's way, as a straightforward pro-EU or anti-EU been about trying to outgrow to talk and argue with bim about free choice, then Britain remains likelier

to go for integration than full independence. But then, Sir James was always brilliant-daft.

What of Britain's pro-EU politicians who mostly want to negotiate a new political order for Europe that involves sharing power and decisions while retaining ultimate sovereignty (the right to say no) with the old nations? They have nothing to lose by a referendum - or, indeed, by further referendums in the future. It has been the covert and elitist nature of the EU project that has always been its most offensive aspect. Without an emphatic popular mandate, regularly renewed, these schemes are doomed.

The pro-referendum movement may be misguided in its nationalist optimism, but it deserves support in principle from all good democrats. And in the end, it is no good complaining about populist anger over the beef ban, or the partial destruction of the British fishing industry. Political integration will never eradicate strong local feelings or competition for mar-kets and resources. To treat these as the Old Adam, an ancient European failing which can be bealed by directives from commissioners, is a fatal failure of imagination.

Better by far to recognise the beef row as a useful warning of things to come – under any system – and read its message now. If politicians have been shocked by the combination of the referendum campaign and the beef crisis, the shock has been salutary. A politics that forgets the basics - jobs and democracy - is dangerous stuff. Sir James, the reviled outsider, is wrong about many things. But be is

with false starts and renewed insta-

hility. The new electoral system.

approved by referendum in 1993, only

increased the number of parties in par-

liament, and it failed to provide a durable working majority when the

media tycoon Silvio Berlusconi swept

into power at the head of a new con-

Mr Berlusconi's victory was hailed

olution in the making and the hirth of

a new political animal, the entrepre-

neur as leader. But Mr Berlusconi was

steeped in the old system, owing much

of his success to his friendship with the

now disgraced Socialist Party leader

servative coalition in March 1994.

# Taking the fizz out of Oddbins

Anthony Rose laments the possible loss of an innovator in quality high-street wine

Oddbins up for sale. Again. Not for the first time. rumours that parent company Seagram have decided to divest themselves of their innovative and popular high street chain have drawn the now predictable tight-lipped response - "it's only speculation" - from Wimbledon head office. This time the rumours are botter than ever, with names such as Greenalis, Cellars and Tesco among the most favoured front-

runners. With only 211 shops nationwide. Oddbins is a mere sprat compared to the mighty Thresher and Victoria Wine chains with over 1,500 stores apiece. Yet it has become a byword for an unequalled range of quality wines and the entbusiastic service offered by its laid-back staff. An Oddbins-less high street might represent a short-term victory for the bean counters, but a cheerless wake for the modern era of fun and

Oddbins was founded in 1963 by the eccentric entrepreneur Ahmed Pochee, a now leg-endary wine trade figure still occasionally sighted wheeler-dealing his way through the cash and carries of Britain. In the days of brewery brands and hasic claret, Pochee and his kindred spirit, Brian Barnett of Augustus Barnett, took maxi-mum advantage of the end of

innovation in wine.

Resale Price Maintenance,
Slashing profit margins to
the bone, they bounced out
the traditional stockholding. high-margin middleman, ship-ping 100-odd cases of wine from here, there and everywhere straight to store. Iilassorted jumbles of wines spilling out of barrels onto wooden floors typified a welcome new, customer-friendly approach to wine retailing. When the old Peter

Dominics and Augustus Barnetts were swallowed up by corporate predators, the pur-chase of Oddbins' 54 stores by £3.6m in 1984 seemed to usher in the end of an exciting era of expansion and innovation. In fact it was just the beginning. By having the foresight lo give its glohetrotting huyers carte blanche, Seagram maimained Oddhins' spirit of independence-cum-fun.

When Australia was poised to make its entrance onto the UK stage, Oddbins took full advantage. So much so that by last year, Australia accounted for 40 per cent of Oddbins' sales - bence the pun "Ozbins" put out by jealous rivals. Oddbins can take credit for leading where others have followed. not just in the Australiainspired wine revolution, but in Chilean and in Californian wine, the latter a particularly tough nut to crack given its relatively high prices.

Against the general down-market trend, Oddbins has consistently beld out against cutting quality corners. The chain's buyers, led by the indefatigable John Ratcliffe and Steve Daniel, gleefully trod heavily on the toes of the independent wine trade when, three years ago, they took the highly successful gamble of offering customers a range of upper crust 1992 white burgundies. The cachet extends to malt whiskies

With its anarchic Ralph Steadman image, Oddbins has set the tone

and a thicket of traditional British and premium imported beers and lagers.

The hig brewery-owned chains have followed suit with their own Oddbins-style chains. Thresher's Wine Rack and flagship Bottoms Up stores, Victoria Wine's new upmarket Ccl-lars and Greenalls' Wine Cellar are all responses to the Oddbins culture of innovation. And Oddbins' six Fine Wine Stores, selling parcels of fine, exclusive wines, too small to go into the 211 high street stores, have become well established.

Despite the image of youthful anarchy, Oddhins claims that its customers number "anyone and everyone". The London and the South orientation suggests the relatively wellheeled. Value for money is in fact a major criterion, but unlike the typical supermarket Frascati-purchaser in search of the inoffensive, Oddbins' custude. If they've bought a bottle and liked it, they are just as likely to go back and look for new and exciting flavours as to stick with it.

Compelitors might he expected to be laughing into their designer beers at Oddbins' current discomfort, but the more realistic among them recognise that the loss of Oddbins would make the world of wine a poorer place. With its unstuffy ambience and anarchic Ralph Steadman image, Oddhins has set the tone and standard of the modern off-licence. Its loss would be nobody's gain.

# An olive branch to democracy

The triumph of the Olive Tree coalition could herald a more stable era in Italian politics, says Andrew Gumbel

The victory may not have been over-whelming and the road ahead may still be rocky, but the Italian centreleft's winning vote suggests the heginning of a new era. The triumph of the left after 50 years of exclusion from national government proves that the country is finally coming to terms with the normal rules of Western democracy, whereby power alternates from one main bloc to another.

Romano Prodi and his Olive Tree coalition will not have a free run. since they won an absolute majority only in the Senate, the upper bouse of parliament. In the Chamber of Deputies, they will have to rely on the co-operation of either the far-left

Italy stands a real chance of dispensing with its cycle of corrupt coalitions

Rifondazione Comunista, with whom they had an electoral pact but almost no policy points in common, or the Northern League, the volatile separatist movement which cashed in on a massive protest vote in Lombardy and the region around Venice. But if they can negotiate a viable modus vivendi, Italy stands a real chance of dispensing with its unvarying cycle of unstable governments and corrupt cross-party coalitions.

The new government's first and most important task will be to prepare Italy for Europe, streamlining the state apparatus to bring the country's runaway public debt under control and to restructure the overcomplicated. much abused tax system. But Mr Prodi has also promised to open negotiations with the opposition on institutional reform, including a new electoral law to replace Italy's messy hybrid of proportional representa-

tion and first-past-the-post.

What form the new system will take is not clear - there is talk of copying the American system, the French system, the German system, even the



Supporters of the centre-left Ofive Tree celebrate at a rally in Rome

British system - but Mr Prodi and his allies understand they have an historic opportunity. Theirs will be the 55th government since the Second World War, maintaining the average of almost one every 10 months; a new electoral law might require a 56th to take office before the end of the millennium, but thereafter it is in everyone's interests - the opposition's included - to close the revolving door for good.

Italy's chronic instability bas been due to two factors: the need to prevent any return to dictatorship after the defeat of Fascism, and Italy's key role in the Cold War. The first led to a constitution so overladen with checks and balances that no government

could ever last, while the second blocked the Italian Communist party, the largest left-wing force in the country, from participating in national

For decades there was a kind of organised chaos, with the Christian Democrats remaining in the driving seat, but with efficient government for-ever impeded by shifting alliances and factional hickering within the ruling party. Instead of alternating power blocs, Italy was lumbered with "trasformismo" - an elegant word to describe the inelegant opportunism. back-scratching and favour-seeking that motivated parties and factions to switch allegiances at the drop of a bat for short-term political advantage.

Photograph: Paolo Cocco/Reuters In many ways, this was a prolonged version of what France went through under the Fourth Republic. But France managed to rewrite its consti-

tution amidst the chaos of the Algerian war, and achieved the normality of alternating government when François Mitterrand brought the left to power Italy, by contrast, muddled on through the end of the Cold War, the break-up of its Communist party into the mainstream PDS and the irredentist Rifondazione Comunista and

their own corrupt contradictions in the The years since have been fraught

- eventually - the collapse of the gov-

erning parties under the weight of

Bettino Craxi; and in his brief period One can envisage a new moderate left and a new moderate right evolving

in office he vigorously pursued his own interests rather than the country's. The Berlusconi phenomenon now looks like an aberration, not a new

start. The man himself is on trial for tax fraud and faces further judicial investigation into his husiness practices. It seems safe to predict that the next few years will see a realignment on the right, with moderate voters of Mr Berlusconi's Forza Italia party coalescing around a new leader and the reformed neo-fascist National Alliance pushed back to the fringes.

Mr Prodi's Olive Tree coalition is essentially an anti-Berlusconi alliance rather than a true force of the left - it includes, for example, the freemarketeering Lamberto Dini, the outgoing prime minister. But if institutional and electoral reforms go through as planned, one can envisage a new left and a new moderate right evolving out of the present blocs, in time for the next election, and a durable two-party system taking shape. The modernisation of Italy and the stability of its parliamentary democracy will depend on it.

another is local economic autonomy.

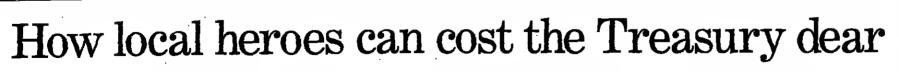
Research is showing just how much money leaks out of local economies

into the coffers of big, distant business.

An estimated 80 per cent of super-

market takings are lost to the com-

munity: suppose this was recycled



The Government is missing a few billion. It's overlooking an obvious suspect, says David Nicholson-Lord and self-esteem they have rediscovered - but quality of life is not taxable. If one aim of such grassroots initiatives is to generate "social" wealth.

If Kenneth Clarke and his team from the Treasury want an explanation for Britain's vanishing tax revenues, they could do worse than examine chaos theory. This bolds that the flexing of a butterfly's wings in China can, eventually, create a storm in New York. The smallest of actions, in other words, can influence the largest of events - general elections for instance.

The disclosure last week that the Government has over-run its borrowing target by about £3bn, seriously limiting its scope for pre-election tax cuts, prompted another search for suspects -tax-fiddling corporations, the growth of low-income self-employment, the black economy. Yet, of the fastestgrowing and most fascinating bit of the new tax-resistant economy, virtually nothing was heard - a strange omission indeed, since it promises in the long run to be of far greater importance, not least to government and its management of national finances.

On Saturday, the Sustainable Agriculture Food and Environment Alliance (Safe) is bolding a conference in London to discuss a large and diffuse range of grassroots initiatives that have largely escaped the attention of policymakers and pundits. These range from credit unions to food cooperatives and involve significant numbers of people - hundreds of thousands. They take as their starting point the perception that the big, taxvielding economy run by the state and its allies in business has lost its way.

The Safe conference will look, for example, at how communities can bolster the "local food economy" - usu-ally by cutting out the middleman (ie supermarket) and restoring direct links between food producers and consumers. This includes farmers' markets (popular in the US and now startine in Britain), new consumer cooperatives (Out of This World, a green supermarket chain, opened its first store last November and plans 12

by the end of 1997) and the humble veggie-box - organic produce brought to your doorstep by a local grower. But the Nineties have also seen a

mushrooming of other self-belp initiatives. The number of credit unions - highly localised, co-operative lend-ing institutions - has tripled: they now have around 140,000 members. There are an estimated 400 local exchange trading systems (Lets), in which people barter skills and products through cashless currencies. Community husinesses and co-operatives have boomed: there are over 1,100, compared with a handful 20 years ago.

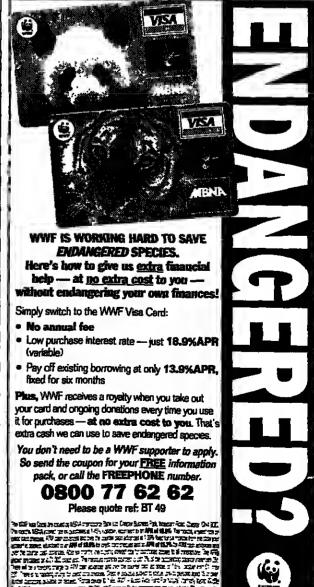
economy. But to see it as merely part of the growth of self-employment or the black economy is to miss its significance - not least the radical challenge it poses, in the name of a new, informal local economic order, to

Much of this activity has its roots in wider changes in employment and the

the global economy. In environmental terms and energy use the global economy is highly inefficient. Why bring Granny Smith apples 14,000 miles from New Zealand when we can grow them our-selves? Within the UK, we are eating roughly the same amount of food as 15 years ago - yet it travels 50 per cent further to arrive at its destination. The increase in "food miles" adds to pollution and packaging, means more chemical préservatives are used and puts small producers out of business.

into local jobs? Such thinking may herald the emergence of a remodelled pre-industrial While growing and buying locally makes far more sense, it will not be welcome to the Exchequer, since the economy in which economic power cost of creating and cleaning up poldrains away from the nation-state lution generated by food miles counts into a network of towns, cities and regions. Such a prospect is still a long as gross national product or economic "growth", and thus yields tax way off - but when butterflies flex their wings, the world (chancellors included) had better watch out. revenues. Nor do Lets commend themselves to the Treasury, since no money changes hands and there is no income to tax. The quality of life of

For details of Saturday's conference. those taking part may have improved "Action on Food Miles - strategies for - many Lets participants speak in a local food economy", contact Safe glowing terms of the neighbourtiness Alliance on 0171 823 5660.



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FREEPOST, Chester CH4 977.

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### Baby Bells plan £15bn merger after US deregulation ment and by-and-large declared the North-east region. "If there

**DAVID USBORNE** New York

Two telephone Baby Bells, Bell Atlantic and Nynex, yesterday announced plans to combine forces in the biggest telecommunications merger ever seen in America. The deal, which still faces the scrutiny of shareholders and of federal and worth almost \$23bn (£15bn).

making it the second-biggest merger of any kind in US corporate history, after the 1989 takeover of RIR Nabisco by Kohlberg Kravis Roberts for

The new company, to be called Bell Atlantic and based in New York, would be the second-largest telecommunications company in the US behind state-level regulators, would be AT&T and the fourth-higgest world-wide. It would have a and cable companies.

global workforce of 133,000 employees and boast combined revenues, based on 1995 figures, of \$27.8bn.

The way for the merger was opened by the passage through the US Congress two mooths ago of a sweeping lelecommunications deregulation bill that lifts many of the barriers to competition between long-distance and local telephone providers

By combining, the companies hope to contend with new competition in their local markets and to break into the lucrative long-distance sector, both in the US and internationally. Together, they cover an area densely populated by business and private customers, from Maine to Virginia and taking in cities such as New York, Washingtoo DC and Philadelphia.

partnership in the world," in 1984 when the US govern-Roland Smith, the chairman of ment forced the break-up of the Beli Atlantic, declared at a news conference. "This a merger of equals in every sense of the Bells across the US. With this

Under the deal, Mr Smith, 58, will run the new Bell Atlantic for the first year, after which control will begin to transfer to Ivan Seidenberg, 49, the chair-

The Baby Bells were created

old AT&T - or Ma Bell. Until this month, there were seven deal and the \$16.7bn fusion announced two months ago be-tween Telesis Pacific of California and SBC Commu-

decline to five. Analysts had widely anticipated yesterday's announce-

nications, the number is set to

it desirable and even inevitable. The Bell Atlantic deal "is the one that everyone thought made sense," said Scott Cleland of the

Washington Research Group. Navigating the regulatory hurdles may oot be simple, however, Federal and state regulators will consider the claims of consumer groups that combined, the two Bells will have too much power to set rates in

that were in a position to go in and compete with one another, because they have known brands across regions, it would be Bell Atlantic and Nynex." Bradley Stillman of the Consumer Federation of America

CITY & BUSINESS EDITOR: JEREMY WARNER

conlended. "Instead, we have two entrenched monopolies joining forces to create one monopoly.

# Eurotunnel 'may never repay debts'

Sir Alastair Morton, co-chairman of Eurotunnel, has told banks they must slash the interest rates and fees they charge on the tunnel's £9bn of loans.

Announcing losses last year of £925m. Sir Alastair said yesterday that Eurotunnel had warned the banks that the company may never be able to repay its debts during the entire 7 years left for its concession.

The company said it had told the banks and the two mediators appointed by the French courts that negotiations "should not be based on any assumptions that cash flows over the life of the concession will necessarily be sufficient to repay the banks their principal plus interest, at the levels currently in the credit agreements, plus interest and penalties payable thereon."

Sir Alastair made clear that the comment was aimed principally at persuading the banks to cut their profit margins.

its banks a margin of more than 1.6 percentage points above the standard London interbank interest rates on its dehts.

Sir Alastair said this margin was appropriate for a project in its construction phase but not for one that is complete and has 57 revenue-earning years ahead. He called this one of the main sticking points with the hanks. "Nobody should plan to get project financing rates for the next 57 years" be added. Eurotunnel, which yesterday

replaced SBC Warburg with Kleinwort Benson as its UK broker, also pays substantial fees to its 225 banks. These included £45m in the fourth quarter of last year as a result of the suspension of payment of interest on £8.1hn of the £9hn dehts.

Sir Alastair insisted that there would still he equity left for shareholders once the debt restructuring with the banks was

A shutdown or receivership

rntunnel any good. Refusing to discuss the negotiations with the hanks in any detail before the annual meeting in June, he said: "One thing we won't do is swap deht into equity and go away." However, he conceded

that a debt-for-equity swap could form a part of a more complex package.
Sir Alastair repeated bis claims that the Anglo-French nature of the company - twothirds of whose shares are owned in France - gave special protection under French law to shareholders. He said: "Share-

bolders have to vote on any solution other than a sbutdown and the process of moving towards that vote is overseen on an informal hasis by the mandataires ad hoc," These are two court appointees, Lord Wakebam, chairman of the Press Com-

Commission, and Badinter, former French Minister of Justice. To rub bome the point against the banks that this is not

an ordinary corporate rescue, Sir Alastair said: "An Anglo-Saxon shutdown and sell-off just does not do them any good in

He believed that when an outline deal was reached with the 26 lead banks - which is unlikely before the autumn -"there is going to be something for the banks and something for the shareholders or there is not going to be a deal - and everybody wants a deal."

Although the shares slipped 4p to 69p yesterday, Sir Alastair insisted that the £925m loss was no surprise, and was foreseeable from the numbers the company bad given at the interim results in the autumn.

Last year, after bank fees of £60m and depreciation of £136m Eurotunnel lost £200m hefore interest. The £925m overall loss was reached after interest charges of £768m, of which £118m is a charge for bank interest unpaid since the standstill on 14 September.



Comment, page 19 Sir Alastair Morton yesterday: Warned banks that cash flows may not cover repayments Photograph: Peter Macdiarmid

### **National Power** rebuffs Atlanta with raised bid

**MICHAEL HARRISON** 

National Power yesterday raised the stakes in its battle to fend off a hostile bid from Southern Company of the US hy raising and the pumped storage powits offer for the regional UK er station business First Hydro power company Southern Electric by about t0 per cent to

The increased offer came as a Government announcement on whether to allow through this merger and PowerGen's hid for Midlands Electricity was believed to be imminent.

lan Lang. Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, is expected to announce his decision this week, possibly in the next 48 hours, signalling what could be a rash of vertical integration across the electricity industry.

Southern Company refused to add to its statement last week that it was considering a "combination" with National Power but would await the Government's ruling on the two generators' bids before announcing terms.

However, a spokesman in Atlaota, Georgia, said that the statement "still stands". Other sources have suggested that Southern Company may pull out and look elsewhere following National Power's £1.7bn sale of three power stations to Hanson first week and yesterday's raised offer for Southern. National Power's increased

offer for Southern Electric is conditional on the merger being approved on terms and conditions which are satisfactory. It is offering £9.60 cash a share and is allowing Southern Electric shareholders to retain a second interim dividend of 26.3p in effect raising the val-

initial bid last October was worth £10.10 a share but since then Southern Electric bas sold its stakes in the National Grid and undertaken a share consolidation.

On a like-for-like basis, the bid is worth about £11 compared with last October's offer. Shares in National Power rose 13p to 605p while Southern Electric shot up 32p to 891p.

diately attacked the revised offer, arguing that it valued Southern on a higher earnings multiple than any of the other regional electricity companies taken over so far.

Analysts estimated that the hid valued Southern Electric at t4 times earnings compared with the 11 times earnings that Southern Computy paid for Sweb last year and the 13.6 times that another US utility, Central and South West of Texas, paid for Seeboard - the

highest hid in the sector so far. However, National Power hit back arguing that the power sta-uon disposal to Hansoo and the Southern Electric bid, if successful, would lead to "very significant earnings accretion giving it scope to raise dividends.

deals could enhance earnings by hetween 20 and 30 per ceot. National Power added that neither it nor Southern Electric, believed the approach by the US company changed the "compelling logic supporting an immediate implementation of their proposed strategic

Analysts estimate that the two

Comment, page 19

### **Economy:** Surge to £5.9bn prompts speculation of higher borrowing costs by the autumn

### Strong lending fuels rate fears No automatic bail-out

The spectre of higher interest rates was raised yesterday by new figures showing far stronger than expected lending and monetary growth last month. Michael Dicks, an economist al investment bank Lehman Brothers, said: "This is another plank in the argument for interest rates to go up sooner rather than later."

Financial markets expect the cost of borrowing to start rising by the autumn, a timetable that could he embarrassing for the Government.

Total lending by banks and The American camp imme building societies amounted to £5.9bn last month, with the big banks reporting a further rise in loans to industry though mort-gage lending remained flat. The British Bankers' Associ-

ation said borrowing by manufacturing industry at £365m was the highest for a year. There was also record demand

The stuttering recovery in the

housing market appears to be

mis-firing again with fresh fig-

ures showing the number of

home purchasers remaining at hroadly the same level in March as io the previous two months. Monthly figures issued yes-

terday by the Inland Reveoue

showed 89,000 properties

changed hands in March on a

seasonally adjusted basis, down

from 91,000 in February and

The disappointing figures

came as a monthly survey by the

Building Societies Association,

97,000 in January.

NIC CICUTTI

for £1.4bn of funds by leasing pared with 10.2 per cent in Feb-companies. pared with 10.2 per cent in Feb-ruary. It has been running lending figures by several billion in future debt crises,

Martin Hall, director general of the Finance and Leasing Association, said this was consistent with members' reports of a strong pick-up in investment demand, particularly for inward investment and infrastructure projects.

Growth of the broad money measure, M4, remained in double digits at 10.1 per cent com-

Bank lending to manufacture	rs"
1000 Includes lendl	ng
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42,000 last month, down from

Net commitments are an im-

portant indicator of future de-

mand in the housing market.

reflecting purchases still six or

seven weeks from completion.

However, the BSA's figures

showed commitments stalled at

the same tevel as 12 months ago.

by big British banks showed a

slight drop in loans secured on

properties, down from £647m in February to £632m in March.

The total was still up on March

1995, when lending stood at

Price (s) Charge (s) % Charg

4.5 6.1

Separately, a separate survey

43,000 the previous mooth.

above the Government's 3-9 per cent target range for the past

Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, warned the Chancellor of the Excbequer last month that rates might have to be raised again if monetary growth did not moderate. Mr Clarke described the strong growth in M4 as "puzzling". Economists at the Bank are

drafting oext month's Inflation Report, which will pass a verdict on whether the Chancellor will meet his inflation target. February's report concluded that this was "more likely than

not" hut most subsequent economic statistics have been buoy-The CBI's quarterly trends survey, due today, and retail

sales figures on Thursday will be scrutinised for further evidence of a pick-up in the economy. The launch of the gilts repo market on 1 January has in-

commitment numbers given re-

cent surveys and anecdotal ev-

idence pointing to a further

pick-up in housing market ac-tivity. We remain confident

mortgage demand will contin-

ue to climb in the months

ahead. But the rise so far has

only made good the ground lost in the first half of 1995.

Further progress is likely to

remain patchy as the rise as the

rise in market interest rates

prompts the disappearance of

cheaper fixed-rate deals avail-

Mr Loynes added that al-

though the market had enough

momentum to sustain further

price rises in the next few

able at the start of this year."

pounds a month.

Yet even excluding this effect the underlying rate of broad money growth has nearly doubled in less than a year. Many economists think this

is not a sign of direct inflationary pressure because the takeover boom is behind the surge. For example, about £1.75bn of the March increase in borrowing was financing for Granada's takeover of Forte.

However, Professor Tim Congdon of Lombard Street research, a member of the Treasurv's panel of "wise persons", said: "There are classic signals

of monetary excesses." Institutional investors flush with cash were bidding up shares, land and property prices, he said. Shares prices are at near-record levels, while tand rose 29 per cent in value last year and has climbed since theo according to estate agents

Despite the gloomy com-ments, the BSA claimed to be

reassured by separate figures

showing a sharp jump in new

mortgage lending, excluding

re-mortgages, to a nine-month high of £1.03bn in March, from

Peter Williams, head of re-search at the BSA, said: "Strong

GDP 107 0+2.0pc 106.1 29 Apr

£603m in Fehruary.

the summer.

off the formal agenda of the International Monetary Fund's annual meeting here.

Designed to head off a repeat
of the Mexican crisis which was Recovery in the housing market stalls only contained by an ad hoc rescue package put together by the US, the tMF and the Basicbased BIS, the working group's was crucial to sustain it heyond proposals are but one part of a ig effort by the fund that ide-

> disasters from occurring - but that if they do, to make sure a mechanism is in place to cope with them. To prevent a repeat of the Mexican debacte which caught markets and governments by al-

atly would prevent such near-

sis could no longer expect to be

bailed out by their own gov-

ernments - as in effect hap-

peoed when Mexico came

within an ace of financial col-

bandling an international fi-

nancial emergency are among

the recommendations of a

working group of senior officials

from the Group of Ten indus-

trial countries, approved yes-

terday at a G10 session, kicking

The new tougher approach to

lapse at the end of 1994.

most complete surprise, the fund wants members to commit

G10 ministers warn to publish improved financial and economic statistics that would permit a potential crisis to be detected in advance. More

RUPERT CORNWELL Finance ministers of the world's richest nations warned yesterday that private sector creditors of a country facing a debt cri-

than two dozen countries have signed up to the scheme. But if the worst comes to the worst. warns the Glu report, "there should be no presumption that any type of deht will be exempt from payments suspensions or restructuring". Wrangling, however, is hold-

ing up plans to double the IMF's resources to tackle crisis. hy enlarging the general arrangements to borrow (GAB) credit line from the existing \$25hn (£10.5bn) to \$50hn. This would be achieved by hringing in new countries alongside the G10 countries which currently contribute to the GAB. But the newcomers, who would operate a paralici new arrangements to borrow" credit line, are insisting on equal ranking with the founder members. Some of these tatter however insist on keeping a special status.

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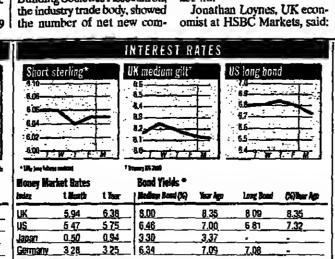
The discussions came 24 hours after top officials of the G7, the inner group of industrial nations, had agreed that the current economic slowdown in Europe, especially in Germany and France, is essentially over.

Addressing the IMF vesterday, Kenneth Clarke, said stronger growth should resume in continental Europe in the second half of 1996,





4 Pet						
Indices						
lades	Cione	Day's change	Change (%)	1995/96 Mgt	1995/96 Low	Yield(70)
FTSE 100	3852.70	-4,40	-0.1	3857.10	3639.50	3.86
FTSE 250	4544.10	+9.60	+0.2	4544,10	4015,30	3.28
FTSE 350	1944 60	-0.80	-0.0	1945.40	1816.60	3.73
FT Small Cap	2195.32	+7.35	+0.3	2195.32	1954.06	2.95
F7 All Share	1923.94	-0.23	-0.0	1924.17	1791.95	3.67
New York *	5566.19	+30.71	+0.6	5689.74	3832.08	2.17
Tokyo	22123.89	+240 05	+1.1	22123.89	19734.70	0.711
Hong Kong	10909 98	+91.49	+0.8	11594.99	10073.39	3.33†
Frankfurt	2545.91	+9.39	+04	2545.91	2253.88	1.84†
				Source	: FT Infor	mation



MAIN PRICE CHANGES

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ises from the olive tree 2

'Plainly, on any ordinary analysis, the banks ought to own Eurotunnel and the shares should be worth no more than the value of their

travel concessions'

### Morton plays hard ball on the tunnel he built Ever since he first became co-chairman of complexity, size and cost cannot be privately pay back every penny invested and some. The irony is that it won't be until long after

ways saw his purpose as exclusively that of getting the tunnel built, up and running. The means by which this was achieved were not necessarily important. The paramount thing was simply to get the tunnel in place. There is rarely room for self-doubt and truth in such single-minded pursuit of the grand design. Sir Alastair, it can fairly be said, ignored the underlying reality with impunity, such was bis ambition and strength of purpose. From the start the reality was always that the tunnel might get huilt for the sums being talked of, it might even generate a return for investors and bankers, but most probably it wouldn't. You never heard that from Euro-tunnel and its advisors. Their message was always one of unrelenting optimism and flam-

boyant self-assertion.
Well, now the tunnel is built, so Sir Alastair has achieved his great purpose. But with formal admission that debts can never be repaid, what a mess this experiment in private finance has left behind.

With the help of Sir Alastair and French law, which gives investors higher standing as creditors than the rock-bottom position they get in the Anglo-Saxon world, shareholders may salvage the odd plank or two from the wreckage - but only if bankers take

Sir Alastair has got the tunnel huilt, certainly, but he has also demonstrated in the

nised this, in confidence at teast. Backing Eurotunnel was never a wholly commercial decision in their case. Even Japanese bankers, the group that complains most vocally these days about being misled, were reluctantly persuaded into it by their own ministry of finance as a way of sboring up Japan's wider commerical interest in Britain

and the rest of Europe.

For them it was a kamikaze act of duty for the greater good of Japan. To a lesser extent the same was true of British and French banks, who were largely arm-twisted into the mire.

But none of them will easily forgive or for-get. Eurotunnel is a one-off. Nothing quite like it will be attempted again. In future such projects will require genuine partnership between state and private sector with the state shouldering a high proportion of the risk, or, as in the case of the high-speed rail link, a big slug of public subsidy.

Hard to believe, but it was less than two years ago that Sir Alastair last persuaded bankers and shareholders to dip their bands into their pockets for Eurotunnel. On that occasion Sir Alastair bullied banks and shareholders into a £1.5bn refinancing. Some of the claims he made when he was trying to pull them into line ought to make him blush now, but probably won't. Even now, Sir Alastair believes he will one day be process that infrastructure projects of such | vindicated - that the tunnel will eventually

bis death that we will know for sure. For the time being the odds look heavily stacked

against him. Nevertheless, with his talent for bluster, bullying and - where necessary - prevarication. Sir Alastair was clearly the man of the moment.

How many others would have had the check to persuade so many people to empty so much money into a black hote? For the shareholders, angry as they have every right to be, he is still the right man to fight the hanks over what is left.

Plainly, on any ordinary analysis, the banks ought to own Eurotunnel and the shares should be worth no more than the value of their travel concessions. But Sir Alastair is playing hard hall, and will probably succeed in keeping at least a small slice of the equity for shareholders.

### Time to show or go in Atlanta

It is, as they say in Atlanta, Georgia, fast approaching time to show or go. Will the good of boys from Southern Company take the plunge and bid or will the poison pill of National Power's increased offer for Soutbern Electric prove too much even for Amer-

ican stomachs? The men from Atlanta have in some ways

week that they would not come up with an offer for National Power until the Government had decided whether to clear the way for an orgy of vertical integration in the elec-tricity industry. John Baker of National Power, who knows a thing or two about how to play his cards in Whitchall, is not allow-

MMC reports. While the Americans have sat on their hands, watching ever more incredulously, he has been busy unscrewing the fixtures and fittings with such gusto that Southern may hardly recognise the place even if they do

ing himself to be inconvenienced by such for-

malities as ministerial pronouncements and

The odd power station or three is missing but, never mind, here's another regional electricity company to go with the one you already own.

get to move in.

Shareholders in National Power could be forgiven for feeling more than a little bemused. Nor does it help when the potential suitor for your company happens to go under the same name as the one it intends to seek your permission to buy. But perhaps they should content themselves in the knowledge that right now their shares are a one-

way bet.
The multiple of carnings National Power is offering for Southern Electric is right at the top of the range and perhaps it might have got more out of Hanson for the gen-

boxed themselves in by relying too much on | erating capacity it is buying to add to its own old-fashioned British fair play. They said last | REC, Eastern

There is plainly a danger that National Power will end up overpaying in its anxiety to escape the clutches of the Americans. But recent history has shown us that it is extraordinarily difficult to pay too much for a regional electricity company.

In any case, if Mr Baker is as good as his

word then the two deals it bas stitched ingether in the last six days, allied to declining dividend cover, will do wonders for his ability to reward sbarebolders. Phrases like very significant earnings accretion" are not ones that easily pop from the mouths of mer-chant bankers and lawyers when drafting offer documents.

The alternative prospect is of the Americans throwing silly money at National Power, notwithstanding their efforts to talk the price down in the last week. It is hard to believe that Southern had not already factored in the possibility of a scorched-earth defence from National Power.

After all its advisers, SBC Warburg, know

thing or two about such matters from the Trafalgar-Northern battle where its two former halves acted on opposite sides of enemy

Southern's exorbitant rating, coupled with low US interest rates and the phlegmatic approach Wall Street takes to highlygeared utilities certainly enable it to pay top dollar. It is hard to see the Americans having gone this far only to turn away.

### Confidence sends unit trust sales to a record

NIC CICUTTI

Sales of unit trusts surged more than 25 per cent to a record £4.1bn in the year to April, boosted by growing confidence among investors in the stock

The net increase was aided by exceptional unit trust sales for March, reaching £1bn compared to £566m the previous month. The monthly figures beat the previous record of £975m achieved two years ago.

The figures, issued yesterday by the Association of Unit Trust and Investment Funds, the industry trade body, reflect a return to direct equity-linked investments after the sales collapse in 1994.

Autif's figures came as separate statistics by the Building Societies Association showed an Although on a seasonally- slice of funds would still have

Nat West Securities virtually swept the board yesterday at the

Reuters rankings for the best City stockbrokers. The invest-

ment banking arm of Nat West

Group won four of the five

awards, maintaining its lead from last year as the best over-

all broking bouse in all sectors,

reached £116m in March, the figures this year were much lower compared with the same statistics for 12 months ago when net receipts totalled

Peter Williams, head of research at the BSA, said: "The size of the outflow is likely to represent seasonal factors, as March is the latest date for investments in PEPs in order to fully exploit the tax advantages.

"Savers' interest in equityhased investments such as unit trusts may also have increased this and may have influenced the size of the outflow."

However, he pointed out that there was a growing trend for huilding societies to offer their own unit trust and PEP products. This meant that while money may have shifted out of

as judged by leading fund managers and the finance directors

Nat West Securities was vot-

ed the best broker research, best

broker execution, and its oil

team as best overall sector

clean sweep of the top awards

by being voted the best broker

sales by fund managers and fi-

SBC Warburg prevented a

of big UK husiness.

remained with the societies under a different guise.
Philip Warland, director gen-

eral at Autif, said: "Increased awareness of the benefits of unit trusts, together with a resurgence in overall investor confidence and tax year-end deadlines have spurred investors into action.

Mr Warland warned of the possibility of a future month-onmonth tail-off in sales. He added: "The pattern of savings flows in the economy is very complex at the moment, with money being retained in building societies because of potenbonuses de-mutualisations].

"Maturing Tessas are also providing a source of new money flows. When that money is released and seeks higher returns. the flows into unit trusts will be-

weighted according to the sig-

nificance of analysts' sectors and

the businesses represented by

the fund managers and finance

place last year by fund managers

and finance directors, BZW

was the big loser in the 1996

Reuters survey, slipping to the fourth and fifth spots respec-

Having been voted in second

tering reverse unit trust invest-ments and PEPs suffered 12

months previously.

Last month, PEP sales reached £990m, more than double the previous month's total and £149m more than the last all-time record of two years ago.

A substantial slice of PEP sales, £369m, took place in the last few days before the end of the tax year on April 5, compared to £225m in the same period a year earlier,

Three UK sectors, gilt and fixed interest; growth; and growth and income accounted for 60 per cent of the £1hn in sales achieved in March.

Corporate bond PEPs which were only launched last summer and regarded as a safer form of investment, continued to notch up higher sales Autif's figures for the 1995/96 from £165m in Fehruary.

leapfrogged it to take second

place for the best broking re-

search as viewed by the 100 largest UK-based institutional

investors, and third place in the

same category as voted by fi-

nance directors of the 350

Merrill Lynch was judged

largest UK companies.

bouse by finance directors.

### Tobacco Dock aims at the moon

NIGEL COPE

Gerald Rather, former chairman of the Ratners jewellery group, is set to breathe new life into his morihund Tobacco Dock shopping complex near the Tower of London by adding several family entertainment leisure attractions.

The plan is to add "turbo rides" where viewers watch a film in a seat that moves in tandem with the action, such as cliff rides or a trip to the moon. There are also plans for a virtual reality centre, such as a Seea World.

The development of a ninescreen multiplex cinema has already been announced and should open next year.

Mr Ratner believes leisure attractions should act as a draw to shoppers and encourage retailers to book space.

Some stores groups have started to reserve space at the "factory ontlet" centre where well-known brand names sell goods at cut prices.

ants have been signed and shops should start to open on the currently deserted site towards the end of this year, in time for Christmas. "It has tak-en a long time but this is the final piece in the jigsaw, a source close to Mr Ramer said.

Tobacco Dock has been dogged by problems and in 1992 was bought out of receivership for £12m by Bisley Properties, a private group. The plans for Tobacco Dock appear to signal an acceptance by Mr Ratner that he is unlikely to succeed in his efforts to buy hack the H Samuel jewellery second-best broking research chain from Signer, the renamed



Kiss of life: Gerald Ratner will add lelsure facilities to the Tobacco Dock complex

Ratners husiness that has put its

UK division up for sale. Though Mr Ratner is thought to have found backing, it is expected that he will he outgunned by larger bidders which include Goldsmiths, a rival jewellery chain interested in Ernest Jones chain, and Argos, thought

to covet H Samuel.

Though a shortlist has been

have received a second tranche of financial information on the companies, Signet declined to be drawn on sale plans when it announced a strong set of trading figures last week.

drawn up and the candidates

Apax Partners, a venture capital group, has put together a deal which would involve taking over H Samuel, Ernest

Jones and Goldsmiths and installing Goldsmith's chief executive, Jurek Piasecki, as the head of the enlarged group. However, with trading improving, it is possible that Signet will try to trade its way out of

its difficulties rather than sell the

businesses, though its would still

need a rights issue to reduce its

### IN BRIEF

Financial Editor

 WPP, the world's biggest advertising and marketing agency, said trading in the first quarter was ahead of last year, prompting analysts to upgrade profit forecasts. Revenues grew 13 per cent to £390m in the three months to March, equivalent to like-for-like growth of 10 per cent, beloing to lift gross profits by 13 per cent. The group, which owns J Walter Thompson and Ogilvy & Mather, said operating margins had continued to rise in line with the objective of increasing them by at least 1 percentage point a year. BZW is thought to have raised its full-year forecast from £137m to £144m, while house brokers Panmure Gordon moved their estimate up £5m to £145m.

Rentokil continued the attack on bid target BET, claiming that negative cash flow could force the embattled business services group into a rights issue to finance future growth. Currently visiting Scottish institutions, Rentokil said BET's cash flow before acquisitions bad declined over the past four years and was negative in the past two. It questioned how it could finance the fu-ture growth on which its defence is based without cutting expenditure or raising money from a share issue or further borrowing. BET's shares dipped 1p to 201.5p, putting them just below Rentokil's £3bn offer, now worth just short of 213p after the bidder's shares gained 1p at 353p.

• Italian shares soared after the clear left-of-centre victory in Sunday's general election. The prospect of a stable government drove the MIB-30 index up 5.7 per cent, or 840 points, to 15,617. The lira reached a six-month high of 1,024.4 against the German mark, compared with Friday's close of 1,042.

Hamish McRae, page 22

• McCain Foods is buying Everest Foods for £28m, equal to 110p per share. Directors of Everest and their immediate family members have given irrevocable undertakings to accept the offer in respect of approximately 58.3 per cent of Everest's share capital.

 Sega Enterprises said its joint venture, Game Works, with Dream Work, beaded by film maker Steven Spielberg, and Seagram unit MCA will soon seek a listing on Nasdaq. The venture aims to bave 100 amusement parks in the US in five years, starting with the first launch in Seattle in November.

 Sears, the retail group which is expected to announce a sharp fall in profits today, is selling Hoogenbosch Beheer, its Dutch shoe retailing subsidiary, to a management-led team backed by CVC Capital Partners and CINVen. Net proceeds from the sale of the business and related freehold properties will total £46.6m. It made pre-tax profits of £1.4m in the year to 3 February.

 Invesco has increased the amount of funds under management from £53.8m at the end of 1995 to £56.7bn in the three months to the March, reflecting market appreciation and new business.

\* Smiths Industries has bought acquired electrical conduit maker Adaptaties and industrial ventilation maker Air Movement for a combined £68.6m. The two privately owned companies were complementary to the existing industrial group activities in the UK, Continental Europe and the US, Smiths said. Adaptaflex made taxable profits of £2.4m in the year to last June, while Air Movement made £5.5m in the 12 months to March 1995.

### US bank steps up lending war

NatWest Securities tops rankings

The credit card war in the UK escalated yesterday as People's Bank, based in Connecticut in the US, launched a new card offering a 14.4 annual percentage

The People's Bank card, which undercuts traditional high-street issuers by about 7 percentage points, has no an-nual fee and a 56-day interestfree period.

People's Bank said yesterday that a typical Barclaycard shop-per, paying 22.3 per cent APR on a average balance of £1,500 would save about £100 a year by switching cards. Access users, now paying 23.4 per cent APR, would save at least £15 more. Ronald T Urquhart, the UK

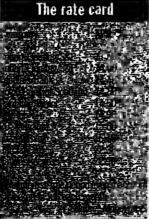
managing director of People's Bank, said: "For too long now,

credit card issuers in the UK have been managing credit to

their own advantage, to the extent that some are still charg-ing APRs almost four times higher than the bank base rate.

"The average credit card
APR rate is 21.2 per cent, which means British shoppers are paying £657m too much interest each year. [Our] card cuts through this complacency." People's Bank aims to undercut traditional issuers by of-

fering a no-frills service from its



UK headquarters in Northampton. The bank, founded in 1842, is among the top 30 credit-card issuers in the US. In the past few months,

aggressive newcomers have grabbed a share of the market by offering slightly more competitive rates. Royal Bank of Scotland bas

launched the Advanta card, offering 15.6 per cent APR, linked to base rates. The RBS Master-Card charges 14.5 per cent APR.

Robert Fleming, which has long offered two of the most competitive cards, charges 14 per cent and 11.5 per cent APR respectively, the latter being linked to hank base rates. Despile its rate, the Robert Fleming card only has 200,000 users compared to 9 million Barclaycard customers.

Mark Warde-Norbury, bank-ing services manager at Robert Fleming, said: "There is an enormous amount of mertia in the market. There also appears to be a cartel, with the high

street banks operating on very large margins and making substantial profits. Until one of the major issuers cracks and cuts its rates, the war will only be at the

margins."
A Barclaycard spokeswoman said the popularity of its card lay in the added benefits, such as loyalty bonuses ranging from cheap holidays to toasters.
"We are successful because

we were first in the market .... Our customers stay with us because they want more from us than a cheap headline rate, which then goes up through a range of hidden charges, in-cluding shorter credit times or additional hills when people

don't pay them off on time. "In many cases, people find that with other users who come from outside the UK and have less experience of this market, the credit limits they receive are lower."

She added that 50 per cent of Barclaycard users paid off their

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### More visitors help Euro Disney cut loss As well as Euro Disney's enues were 17 per cent better

TOM STEVENSON

Higher attendances and better hotel occupancy rates helped Euro Disney reduce its first half loss by 30 per cent to Fr169m (£22m). The improvement was struck despite a resumption of interest payments after a freeze on payments was imposed by the troubled theme park two years ago.

Philippe Bourguignon, chairman and chief executive, said:

This improvement reflects

our strong commercial per-

formance, notably in the ho-

tels. Of particular significance

is that it comes at a time when

many tourist destinations are

experiencing tough market

success in compensating for at Fr819m. the increasing interest bill, the company pointed to a reduction in the effect of seasonal fluctuations in demand. The first half is traditionally quiet for Euro Disney, which has strug-gled to attract visitors outside the hot summer months. The reduction in losses from

Fr241m in the first half of 1995 was helped by a jump in sales from Fr1.68bn to Fr1.90bn. At the operating level, profits of Fr58m, an improvement of Fr140m, were the first positive result since the park opened. Theme park revenues were increased by 11 per cent to

Fr910m as lower prices had the

intended effect of boosting at-

Those improvements more

than made up for higher lease and financial charges, which are estimated to be Fr120m higher for the full year. The rising cost of servicing Euro Disney's deht burden, however, precluded a dividend, which bas been passed for two years now. The improvement in perfor-

mance at the park has been dramatic since the restructuring of 1994 rescued it from the brink of collapse, although it is thought unlikely to ever be the dreamed of.

Attendance improved by 20 per cent last year to a record 10.7 million and it is expected tendance numbers. Hotel rev- to grow to over 11.5 million this

year. Hotel occupancy, which was only 55 per cent in 1993 in-creased to 68 per cent in 1995, substantially higher than the average for the area around Paris. Higher attendances have also fallen through into lower costs per visitor, which fell 20 per cent last year. Shares in Euro Disney, which

reached 751p at their peak in early 1992, closed 11p higher yes-terday at 205p. Nigel Reed, an analyst at Paribus Capital Markets warned, however, that Euro Disney hasn't yet proved it can sustain current growth in the face money machine Disney of increased interest payments on its Fr15.1bn debt. He said first-half results, which include the traditionally slower months, were not an accurate gauge of the park's performance.

### ABF shakes off Cinderella image

Associated British Foods has been the Cinderella of the stock market for so long it is hard to believe that the shares have outperformed the All-Share index by close to a fifth since the start of last year. Even more surprising is that the change in sentiment is as much to do with the sugar and hread giant's underlying trading performance as its leg-endary cash pile.

Yesterday's half-year figures con-

firmed the market's confidence in the group, still controlled by 69-year old chairman and chief executive Garry Weston, Pre-tax profits up 14 per cent at £198m in the six months tu 2 March were well ahead of expectations and the shares responded accordingly with

a 9p rise to 420p. British Sugar, acquired from Beris-ford for £880m in 1990, continues to Profits rose by close to 4 per cent to £87m in the latest period, despite a comparable period flattered by around £5m due to the release of additional exports previously blocked under quota regulations. ABF's Silver Spoon brand has prospered under the heavy regu-latiun of the industry. Thirteen devaluations of the EU's green pound in 11 months has done wonders for prices. although the latest rise in January has had the effect of pulling orders into the first half. ABF is warning the second but continuing demand for sticky drinks, confectionery and starch should underpin future growth prospects.

Milling and baking around a quarter of Britain's flour and bread has tra-ditionally been ABF's Achilles' heel, given the cut-throat price war waged by the supermarket chains over the past few years. But even here there are signs that the business is holding its ground after the slow recovery that started last year. The bread price rise a year ago. the first for some time, plus a move to upmarket brands such as Kingsmill and Allinson helped Allied Bakeries lift its margins and profits. Henderson Crosthwaite says the husiness swam against the tide of falling margins in the rest of the food industry last year and at less than 5 per cent there remains further scope for recovery.

Retailing, helped by recovery in the Primark discount clothes retailer in Ireland, showed the strongest growth in the first half, raising profits 55 per cent to £34m. The jury remains out on whether ABF will spend its £454m cash pile wisely. Most of the £3m profits contribution from North America in the latest period came from Kraft Foods' speciality oils and fats business, acquired for £97m last year. Even taking account of 23m restructuring costs. that return on capital is hardly exciting. Meanwhile, there must be a question whether the three Weston sons in the business, one of whom appears to

### THE INVESTMENT COLUMN

EDITED BY TOM STEVENSON

Associated British foods; at a glance

Market value: £3.78bn, share price 420p

7.5

4.51

31.1

Share price

be earmarked to succeed Garry, can fill their father's shoes. Even with Henderson's upgraded profits forecast of £420m for the year, the shares look fully valued on a forward p/e of 14.

### Farnell aims for the top

Coming so soon after the acqusition of Premier there were no surprises in yesterday's full-year figures from Farnell, ford for £880m in 1990, commines to demonstrate what a good buy it was. Profits rose by close to 4 per cent to £87m in the latest period, despite a few pre-tax profits to £75.5m was ahead of forecasts made during the bid but attention was firmly focused on chief executive Howard Poulson's as-

sessment of the integration of Premier.
With such a large deal - the £1.8bn
acquisition dwarfed Farnell's existing business and sets the company up nicely for inclusion in the FT-SE100 the success of that assimilation is crucial. If the claimed benefits of the deal come through, the newly renamed half will not benefit to the same extent. Premier Farnell will be one of the most exciting growth stories in the stock mar-ket's top flight. If not, the Jeremiah's will be lining up to say we told you so.
The news yesterday was as encour-

Trading record

Pre-tax profits (£m)

Net cash

Endings per store (peans) 3. 26.2

Dividends per share (pence)

aging as anyone might have hoped at this early stage. On the important measure of service reliability, Farnell believes the former Premier businesses achieve their promised delivery times 85 per cent of the time compared with 70 per cent before the takeover. And with a way to go to match Farnell's 100 per cent success rate, the pessimists who claimed there was nothing to gain from the deal because Premier was already well run look wide of the mark.

The other good news to emerge from City briefings yesterday was an acceleration of the planned introduction of Farnell's catalogue into the US and Premier's Newark product over here. An-alysts' forecasts for the year to next January have assumed no contribution from this source so could undershoot by a substantial margin if volumes start to motor in the second half.

Those estimates were usefully un-

derpinned by last year's result, which benefited from a 17 per cent jump in sales to £527m. Earnings per share of 37.5p were 21 per cent higher and the dividend payout, which has doubled in five years, rose 20 per cent to 10.8p (9p). Sales growth in the low-volume, high-margin components business con-tinued with increasing margins at home making up for the costs of start-ing up in the Far East. The high-vol-

2.25.

173

128

2.68

14.3

4.25

ume commodity operation is coping well with tougher trading conditions. If Premier Farnell matches NatWest Securities forecast of £160m this year and £223.5m next time, the shares, up 3p to 720p, stand on a price/earnings ratio of 20, falling to 16. That is a premium to the market, but deservedly so and, at a big discount to Electrocomponents, its supposedly risk-free rival, the shares are still good value.

### Ronson builds on male brands

Howard Hodgson, the flamboyant for-mer funeral director with a passion for Aston Villa, is not wasting any time in his transformation of the Ronson lighter and accessories group.
It is only three years since Hodgson

lighted upon the company, then called Hoskins Brewery. Since then he has changed the name twice, first to Halkin Holdings and then to Ronson. Peripheral businesses such as the brewery have

been sold while Ronson is re-invented as a kind of mid-market Dunhill. The plan is to use the strength of the brand name – which is principally known for lighters and other smoking hits and pieces - and build a male branded accessories group that will eventually encompass a clothing range. sunglasses, leather goods and other accessories aimed at 18-35-year-old men.

The Hodgson plan was developing nicely before a fire in January destroyed the company's main warehouse and manufacturing plant in Newcastle. The fire broke out after the company's December year-end so did not affect last year's profits which surged by nearly 50 per cent to £34m. But the impact will be felt in the first half of this year. Sales are expected to he down by £2m to £3m. Margins have been affected as the company has had to source products at higher prices in order to fulfil orders and keep customers. Negotiations with the insurance company are continuing with £2.7m received so far and another £3.5m still to come.

All this will mean that profits and earnings will he flat this year, though a return to growth is predicted for 1997. Shares had fallen sharply since the fire in January, though they have recovered some ground since. The strategy remains

some ground since. The strategy remains unchanged but the fire creates some uncertainties this year, such as the details of the remaining insurance payment.
With house broker Williams de

Broe expecting profits of £4m this year and the shares up 3p to 54p, they are trading on a lowly forward rating of 8. Cheap on the face of it, but not without risk given the company's small size and the difficulties in re-grouping after the loss of the factory.

# Accountant laps up new role as Wonder Woman

CITY DIARY

JOHN WILLCOCK

Wonder Woman was among the thousands who ran the marathon in London on Sunday, and the be-costumed runner certainly stood out on the TV coverage. Step for-ward Darren Hughes of Hull, for it is he, a 25 yearold senior accountant with Ernst & Young.

Darren also ran the London Marathon last year, and this time he was raising money for St John Ambulance. Recently he tried to get on Gladiators but failed. What would Wolf make of it all?

Andrew Fisher, finance director of Farnell, the world's third-largest electrical components distributor, also completed the marathon on Sunday. He started training only half-way through the re-cent successful bid for Premier, so he was delighted with his finishing time of 4 hours and 15 minutes.

Mr Fisher also started well yesterday as Farnell reported its results for the year to January. But senior colleagues voiced their concern as the day wore on, one saying in the afternoon that he was "fading fast".

The current negotiations between Eurotunnel and its creditors, presided over by two arbitrators or "mandataires ad hoc", one British, one French, must be complicated affairs. It cannot be helping matters, therefore, that one of the arbitrators, Lord Wakeham, cannot parle français très bien. Just as well translators are on hand.

Sir Alastair Morton, cochairman of Eurotunnel. needed no French when he turned his verbal flame-

"Bribes are no longer tax-deductible." There it is in black

and white. The US Information Service attached to the Amer-

ican Embassy in London regularly published Atlantic Outlook.

the latest of which contained the following: "The OECD has

taken another step in the battle against international crime

tax laws to disallow deductibility of bribes." The pamphlet

So which countries allow them? Watch this space.

in recommending that member states commit to change their

adds hastily that "the US already disallows such deductions".



thrower on City scribblers yesterday. Incensed that some analysts had forecast a loss for the year as low as £700m, the great man was clearly worried that the announcement of the real fig-ure - £925m - would prompt the dreaded "worse figures-

than-expected tag.
"It couldn't possibly have been £700m," he thundered, and proceeded to prove it with a flip chart and felt-tip. No doubt the guilty scribblers will mend their ways.

Speaking of analysts, their version of musical chairs carries on, with one long-rumoured move confirmed yesterday, Steve Plag and lames Dodwell resigned vesterday from NatWest Markets, having aiready enjoyed a spot of "gardening leave". and will join BZW in May.

Mr Plag has been the top-rated analyst of all sectors in the Extel 1995 survey and will cover pharmaceuticals at

19 - Find 40 - Interior 100 - New rooms

BZW. This follows BZW's recent poaching of water ex-pert Peter Hyde from Kleinwort Benson, so the firm's planned relocation down the river to Canary Wharf doesn't seem to be putting anyone off. Or are they just paying them a packet?

Meanwhile, reversing the outward flow at Merrill Lynch is Stephen Reitman, top-ranked European auto analyst by Institutional Investor, who has been poached from UBS.

Fancy one of the most interesting yet most thankless jobs in the City? The Bank of England is advertising for a new head of its Special Investigations Unit, to try to prevent fraud in the banking

"The rewards will reflect the seniority of the position and its importance both to the Bank and the financial community" - which sounds tasty, hut you must have been an accountant for at least 20 years. The present incumbent, Ian Watt, is retiring is helping to look for his successor. Since the Bank has had to deal with the collapse of BCCI and Barings in the last five years alone, it's no job for shrinking violets.



Nick Hodges: Aladan offers an exciting platform

### LIG sales to balloon on £46m US buy

TOM STEVENSON City Editor

London International is to become the largest condom manufacturer in America following the acquisition of Aladan, the company with a lucrative contract to supply the US govern-ment with 250 million condoms a year for its overseas aid pro-

trous foray into photo-

processing in the late 1980s almost brought the company down. Analysts said the purchase marked a shift from recovery to a new growth phase.

Nick Hodges, chief executive, said: "This is a landmark deal in the group's development and provides us with an exciting platform from which to achieve sustainable long-term growth in core business areas." LIG will pay a maximum of

The deal is the first big acquisition by LIG since a disas- £46m for Aladan, which as well as its leading position in con-

sidered well placed to benefit from a shift from powdered to

powder-free gloves.

LIG has already introduced a powder-free surgeon's glove, Biogel, which is showing spec-tacular growth especially in the key US market. The new gloves sell at much higher prices than the powdered versions they replace, boosting margins in what

15 per cent by the middle of 1997. November's interim figures showed a rise in margins from 4.8 to 6.7 per cent. Analysts expect the return in the traditionally better second half to the end of March to have hroken the 10 per cent harrier.

Since LIG was refinanced in 1994 it has focused on its core businesses of condoms and

cently hecame the largest condom maker in Spain following the acquisition last month of Androtex, one of that country's largest manufacturers.

Aladan brings on board two low-cost manufacturing sites in Alabama.In the year to December, it made profits of \$10.5m (£7.0m) on sales of \$85.9m (£56.9m).

	COMPANY RESULTS							
	Tamover £	Pre-tax £	EPS	Dividend				
ABF (I)	2.68bn (2.25bn)	198m (173m)	14 3p (12.8p)	4.25p (4.25p				
Blaichi Mining (F)	- (-)	0.11m (0.33m)	D 91p (3.08p)	0.75p (0.71p				
Cross (Jacon) (F)	1/262m (1/259m)	115.0m (115.0m	18.5p (19.7p)	14.890 (14 1				
ElS Group (F)	423m (347m)	20.3m (18.4m)	28.5p (27p)	13.1p [12.7p				
Europassand (F)	299m (30.6m)	-925m (-387m)	- (-)	- (-)				
Ligateart (F)	30.8m (41.2m)	-6.85m (-6.16m)	-3.56p (-3.37p)	nil (-)				
Lundon & Associated(F)	3.5m (3 13m)	1.73m (1.71m)	1.87p (1.91p)	0.72p (0.68p				
Presider Facroli (F)	527m (451m)	111m (59.2m)	57.5p (28.7p)	10.8p (9p)				
Rouses (F)	34 Dm (22.3m)	4.01m (2.72m)	6 49p (5.24p)	1.50 (1m)				

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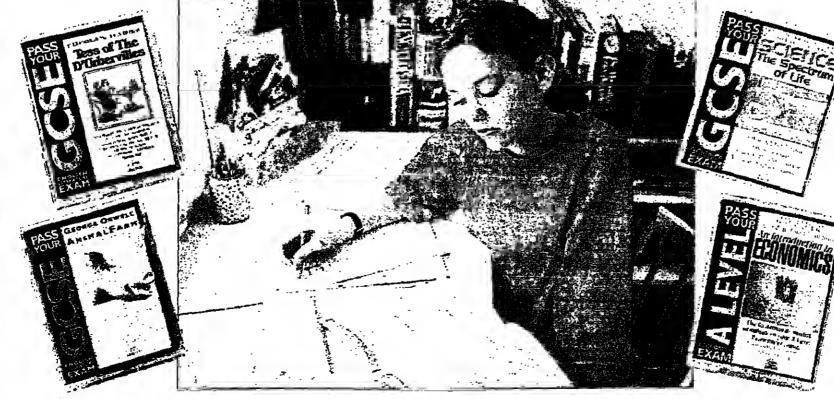
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DATA BANK

FT-SE 100 3852.7 -4.4 FT-SE 250

FT-SE 350

Gifts Index

4544.1 +9.6

1944.6 -0.8

SEAO VOLUME

698.2m shares,

92.74 +0.19

SHARE SPOTLIGHT

### market report/shares TAKING STOCK

### Takeover speculation keeps the atmosphere electric

moured, sent yet another surge of excitement through elec-tricity shares. National Power's £2.5bn offer for Southern Electric was the only deal to materialise but it was enough to spark speculation that others 43,234 bargains will soon appear.

London Electricity and Midlands Electricity were singled out for special attention. If the rumour mill was on form a 920p-a-share offer should arrive for London today at its Holhorn office from Houston, the US group. The iden-tity of Midlands alleged bidder was more clusive but a host of Americao and Continental names were bandled around.

Loodon gained 38p to 855p; Midland 24p to 417p. NP's agreed offer for South-

Takeover action, real and ru- ket's conviction that the American Southern Co's predatory ambitions would not thwarted by the lakeover bid for the UK group. The Scottish power groups, Scottish Hydro-Electric, up 12.5p to 367.5p, and Scottish Power, 13.5p higher at 400.5c upper days in the property of the scottish power, 13.5p higher at 400.5c. 400.5p, were drawn into the excitement and Yorkshire Electricity, for so long the sector's favourite hid candidate, rose

13p to 874p.
The electrical excitement spilled over to waters with Thames, another potential bidder for London, up 8p to 584p and Anglian 10p to 614p. United Utilities, combining the North West's electricity and water companies, gained 14p to 627p. After a shaky start its shares have been firm and there is a growing conviction



MARKET REPORT DEREK PAIN Stock market reporter of the year

into the US gas industry. Camthe supporting index continued bridge Water, a second-liner which last month was still a statutory company, had an-other lively session, up 38p to 315p; the non-voting shares

rose 33p to 290p. If it had not been for the utilities the market would have died of boredom. Trading was mainly featureless with the FT-SE 100 index briefly touching a new high but closing 4.4 points down at 3,852.7. Its performance tended to offer from Canadian chip maker, support to the argument that McCain. Everest jumped 30p

its releotless march, climbing 9.6 to a 4.544.1 peak.
Among blue chips higher was Marks & Spencer, up 3.5p to 460.5p. A modest Merrill Lynch profit upgrading, £25m to £1.145m for this year, cre-

ated the interest. Cadhury Schweppes, 9p firmer at 527p, again attracted hid speculation. One food

ures. Forecasts are in the £200m to £215m range against £221m last time. Year's estimates are being cut by around £20m to £1,205m.

Commeots on accounting policies lowered Cariton Communications, 11.5p to 458p, and Glaxo Wellcome, 9p to SOID. Increased losses left Eurotunnel 4.5p down at 69p. Lasmo, the oil group, schieved the distinction of be-

coming the first to enjoy a high-er turnover on Tradepoint than on Seaq. The order-driven Tradepoint deals were recorded as 2.5 million while Seaq accounted for 2.1 million. The price, however, was unchanged at 189.5p. Builders produced a few

homes' shares were depressed as police investigated alleged accounting problems, the rival Bellway housebuilding group,

picked up oearly 5 per cent. In an intriguing deal Wainhomes has purchase for £24.45m, payable over 10 years, 21 building sites from English China Clays. Development Development of the companion of opments have already started on some of the sites and others have planning permission. The deal, which expands The deal, which expands
Wainhomes' territorial spread,
puts a value of around £12,000
on a housing plant of the spread of the sp

on a housing plot against an in-dustry average nearer £16,000. Micro Focus dived 192p to gains with talk that corporate failed to materialise and Fil- its managed estate. action lurks in the sector. tronic, making parts for mobile It has untangled a joint ven-

Wainhomes gained 2p to Middlesex, the metals group with interests in the group with interests in the former Soviet Union, was the day's most busily traded

> Figures are due soon and it is widely believed the group will announce its move from the doomed USM to the full mar-

Cafe Inns, running pubs in the North West, jumped 15p to a 170p peak. It is ben-efiting from its swing from tenanted to managed pubs.
The company now has 14
managed houses and 70 run
by tenants. Cafe Inns hopes I,143p as the rumoured bid to raise £2m to help increase

	325 Hidlands 3 325 Enetricity 3 300 O N D J F M A	ern, which still needs Whitehall clearance, sent the distributor's shares racing ahead 32p to 891p. It also lifted NP 13p to 605p, reflecting the stock mar-	could be a strong defence	support to the argument that London is decoupling from New York where the Dow Jones Average was up more than 50 points in early trading. Although Footsie faltered	McCain. Everest jumped 30p to 109p. Imperial Chemical Indus- tries edged ahead 5p to 928p despite some unease ahout Thursday's first-quarter fig-	action lurks in the sector. Costain, where Arab interests have huilt substantial stakes, added 4p to 101p; Redrow 5p to 150p and Tay Homes 5p to 144p.	tronic, making parts for mobile telephones, jumped 38p to 433p on Panmure Gordon support. Manganese Bronze, the London taxi cab maker, moved ahead 10p to 307p.  It has instangled a joint venture with the Burtonwood Brewery, collecting two managed pubs and £1.4m in the process. In January its shares were below 100p.
	Sinch	1998 60 Sp. reflecting the stock mar- 1998 60 Loo Stock Price the 19 Price   1998 60 Loo Stock P	1996  1996  1996  1996  1997  1996  1997  1996  1997	Although Footsic faltered    1996	Thursday's first-quarter fig.    1996	144 p.  1986	
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# Italy's 'olive tree' coalition may yet surprise Europe '

A left-of-centre government, but with the support of some hard-line communists. takes power in an important western European democracy. Do the markets respond with horror? No, they do not. Shares, bonds and the currency all soar and there are expectations of a speedy cut in interest rates. In Italy, evidently, things are never quite as they might seem.

Part of the reason for this positive reaction to the "olive tree" coalition victory is fear of what might have been: yet another hung parliament, leading to continued policy paralysis. Part is a celebration of the progress of the real economy now that politics, for the moment, are out of the way. Part is a delayed market local reaction to financial changes taking place in other European markets. But (and this is the most interesting bit) part may be a judgement that Italy can and will continue on its slow return to fiscal virtue under a left-of-centre government.

The first point - that the real economy will move ahead if Italy is a success story - is widely appreciated. The depreciation of the lira has helped. Anyone who has visited the northern half of Italy recently will be aware that it is achieving a recovery comparable with that of the UK, and far more vigorous than that of France and Germany. Its export success has even led to attacks that it has deliberately sought to gain competitive advantage by de-

### ECONOMIC VIEW HAMISH McRAE

rate of floating currencies is set hy the market and the market has taken a dim view of Italy's financial management. In any case in the last couple of months the lira has risen sharply. But at the cost of some inflation (retail prices rose more than 5 per cent last year) and double-digit interest rates, a reasonably solid economic recov-

ery has been established. Italy managed 3.2 per cent growth last year and even if it achieves only 2 per cent growth this, that would be better than that of France or Germany.

The delayed reaction is also fairly easily explained. Alone among the western European countries. Italy has not had a reduction in its official interest

but impossible: the exchange so it would be wholly natural for weakness against the lira to be part of this.

In addition, there is the possibility, even the probability, of the lira rejoining the European exchange rate mechanism later this year to give a little spice to potential investors both in lira paper and in the lira itself.

But it is the third element of the group which has the widest resonance for other European countries.

If there is a real possibility that a left-of-centre govern-ment is at least as able as a rightof-centre one to run a tight fiscal policy, cut inflation, and hence cut interest rates, then the experience of Italy carries implications for the rest of Europe. The Italian deht story can be

### The possibility of the lira rejoining the ERM gives spice to investors

rates for more than a year, so it has some catching up to do. A cut in short-term rates following last week's cut by the Bundeshank is an obvious early possibility. As for expectations of a rise in the lira against the mark, the exchanges are in any

swiftly told. In 1980 Britain and Italy had roughly the same sized national deht as a proportion of GDP: it was slightly larger but not much. Now ours is about 55 per cent of GDP, while Italy's is 125 per cent (see right-hand graph). As a result (see left-hand graph) simply paying interest on the national

debt is taking up 20 per cent of tax revenues, and is equivalent to 11 per cent of GDP.

That is an absolute killer. If one-fifth of one's revenues go straight out in interest payments just getting back to a situation where the debt does not keep growing explosively is tough. For reaching what is called a "primary balance", having tax revenues cover actual current spending is not nearly enough; you have in addition to run a large enough primary surplus to stop the debt grow-

ing even more. Now look at the centre graph. Italy has been running a primary surplus since 1992, but an insufficiently large one to stop the deficit growing even

Last year, finally, the primary surplus was large enough to stabilise the debt, not in absolute terms, but as a percentage of GDP. Estimates for this year suggest that again the debt ratio should be stabilised.

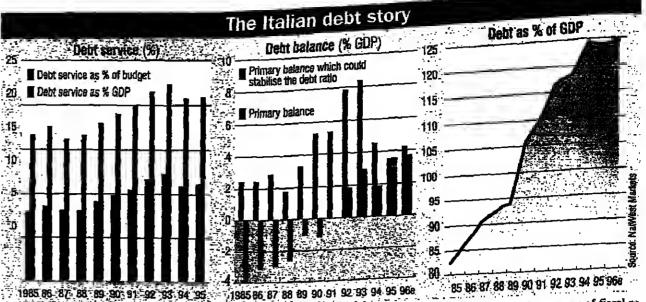
On the face of it, Italy has a long, long slog ahead simply to stop the deficit rising further. Unlike the UK after the last war (when our debt-to-GDP ratio rose to more than 200 per cent of GDP) Italy cannot expect a period of negative real interest rates or of high world inflation which would reduce the deht-

service burden. The key to making the burden acceptable, though, must be to reduce real interest rates as far as possible. As NatWest Markets (from whom those charts are taken) points out, real long-term interest rates in Italy

are now 6.2 per cent, compared with 4.5-5 per cent in core European countries like Ger-

During the last century real long-term interest rates for good-quality government paper were 3-4 per cent, so there should be scope for cutting the deht service burden by up to half. If Italy could do that, then a dreadful budgetary situation would become a manageable

But to do that needs two things. They are obvious enough. The first is to continue running a sufficiently large primary surplus to stop the debt to GDP ratio rising any further and ideally to start pulling



ciently good macro-economic climate that rising investor conman and France. Even that is historically high.

The other is to offer a suffi- a centre-left government has

decessors in carrying on more of the same sort of policies. It fidence will start to cut the real does not have to change direccost of borrowing. The second depends on the first. tion, for that change has already This is unpleasant for the ob- occurred. Now these are early days. The vious reason that it means less

The country has a long, long slog

money for public services, hut there is no other way. While the debt to GDP ratio has continued to rise through the early 1990s, some progress has been made. At least Italy is running action is so encouraging. The professionals, who have no neca primary surplus, which it was essary love of the left, are imnot doing as recently as 1990. So the question now is whether

to stop the deficit rising further government is not yet formed so it is a bit ridiculous to start trying to call its economic policies, certainly from this distance. But that is why the market re-

more legitimacy than its pre-

is that the process of fiscal reform will continue. That is the only rational justification for the surge in the markets yesterday. There are precedents bere.

One is in Sweden at the moment, where the Social Democrats are gradually (maybe too gradually) pushing through a budget stabilisation programme.

Another, which might spark distant memories, was the UK fiscal programme instituted at the behest of the IMF by the last Labour Chancellor. Denis Healey, in 1976.

It would be silly to try and draw too close a parallel there. but it is worth noting that sometimes governments of the left follow tighter fiscal polices than those of the centre or the right

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Italy	23444	75-90	221-246	1551.3	57-64	170-192	102302	Netherlands	Denm
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Sweden	10141	9-15	23-34	6.7104	99-123	260-310	4.4252	Germany SV/%	5.25
Switzerland	18542	68-60	197-185	12269	38-35	711-105	0.8091	France SYA	554
Austrolia -	19214	20-31	67-85	12713	19-21	54-56	0.8384	(	
Hong Kong	11.691	101-61	224-170	7.7359	2-12	15-35	5.1015	Yields calculated on t	OCCI DAMA.
Malaysia	3.7658	0.0	0-0	2.4918	4-14	60-60	16432	Money Ma	-Lat
New Zealand		43-57	133-156	14588	30-32	88-90	0.9620	Money Ma	
Saudi Arabia	5.6671	0.0	0.0	3.7499	2-7	0.14	2,4729		CASSI
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## Street   1997	en Charle Acc	18366	1980	0.21	GPs & Flood Interest	5134	5389	d7.72	British (Accum Units)	1296
## 12	erging Dos Ac	30549	326.73	001	Global Bond	53.)3	5630	878	(Accum Units)	159
method by 2016 1999 1999 1999 1999 1999 1999 1999 1	Marin Growth A	OC 32x38	35627	0.61	Global Erner Mkts	59.86	63.85	40.00	(Accum Unrel	656.
## Security for Co.	with Acc	12143	1238	2.66	Income	494.97	44263	<b>6498</b>	(Accum Units)	147, 149
## 1982   1983   1984   1985	se Gwds Inc	23568	251.91	4001	Japan Smir Cos	48019	512.20	0.00	(Accum Units)	499
The Mark Pr. 1889 10 1985 005	(Perth	50.60	25	782	Japan Enterprise	74.85	7383	4000	(Accum Unics)	307
se Formatic Code Processor. 2000 Units of the Code Service Code Servic	me Ners Acc	14850	15830	0.05	Photic Gwth	16967	180.96	0.39	Mingd Equity Acc	238
## Coar by 1982 1989 149   April 1987 1989 149   April 1987 1989 149   April 1989 149   Apr	en Smir Cos A	cc 20532	219.80	607	(Accum Units)	5414		0.00	[Accum Units]	143
Accomplement Owner by 1867 2578 968 978 978 978 978 978 978 978 978 978 97	Mer Cos ina	108.62	135.30	148	(Accum Units)	34893	37218	0.91	PO Box 1810, Dept RI	PID,
Property   1975   197	Acc	5333	5383	5.59	(Accum Units)	140.72	15008	40.00	Amer Growth Acc	
## Community   1964   1967   1	nerican Gerth				(Accum Units)	41360	44117	195	Cap Protector Inc Cap Protector Acc	48.7
	mps				(Accum Units)	604.47	64477	236	Distribution Acc	276
April	tel Unit Treat of HML Word, i	s Ltd Essex, 161			(Accum Units) Portfolio	-3468	350.33	0.00	Euro Grown Acc	
### ### ### ### ### ### ### ### ### ##		10165	10214	503	Institutional Funds	106.38	11347		Japan Growth Acc	224
March   Marc	aven Acc	106.32	103	<b>06.30</b>	(Accum Cines)	33796	344.28		Mngd Extra income	Acc 446
## 1770 ## 2783 ## 2783 ## 1770 ## 2783 ## 278		10305	716.02	136	(Accum Units)	39.25	4083	120	Mingd High Yield Inc Mingd High Yield Ac	SH GT
Supplement   Sup		67376	82855	d2:35	(Accum Unics)	10043	10462	d089	Mingd Inc & Gith Inc	8725 30954
Co.   2,244   30,44   22,46   100		93.77	9970	524		41.76	4350	0.07	Pecific Growth Porti	n com
## 2895 30760 JS 1084 1077 1033 D8 1066 1077 1077 1077 1077 1077 1077 1077		39.48 343.64	106.83 252.48	0083	(Accum Units)	26550	276.58	6277	UK Income Inc	9192 5083
	<b>ē</b> r†s	25.77	130.38	D64	(Accum Units) Diseas Smilir Cols	342.69	352.60	107	UK Smaller Cos	42.50
## According 1.1d ## According		753.95	12122	0107	Pacific	302.57		094	Swan House, 33 Quee	ngarş Ltd o Sirest, Li
European Red   Euro	irth	14603	157/40		Recovery	2386.83	245636	d101	Dreadner Europe Bd	4507
List Series   Sect	rosper Secu tem Roud,	rideo Ltd	•		LBr. index	108.73	19441	3.23	European	341,15
reactions	-76966E		~~		Ur. Small Cos	14005	<b>14588</b>	243	Exemps	65734
Services   197   1954   1954   1954   1957   1954   1954   1955	ner Cos	1526	7628	Daic	US Smile Cos	6806	70.86	<b>#058</b>	Global Emercing Mic	13 92.09
152.7   152.7   15.58   15.5	ortica	1517	1514		Singer & Friedlander	Dv Fund		d0.56	Japan Ila	8764
Discovery   1200   1217   12		1327	132.7	<b>65.4</b> 1	Tol: 0171 867 9777, Death	C2M 4HR	26 6226		Little Dragons	105.39
Second   S	#ly	1694	1902		Aztec	6883	12804		Nth Amer Gwth	292.39
Control   Cont	Marints	4057	437		Global Bond	92.65	92.65		Onental income (Accum Units)	49.83
Top	n Gwen	2339	248.5		Storting Reserve			d	Preference	12851
Preferred Income   Sect   Se	■ Cob	72.77 1570	7742	010 3.59	UK Growth	T13.f1		d	(Accum Units)	32507
September   Sept	arrer errer	2734	2903		Preferred Income	10617	10617		UK Blue Chip	7540
1947   1433   185	CONTRACTOR OF	13.35	1424		AND SURE PROPERTY.	114.45	11445		(Accum Units)	655.34 529.25
194   194		2612	2779	d301		Matt Mgm		101	(Accum Units)	TT3.99
1945   2064   2064   2064   2065   2066   2065   2066		1715	101.1	d585	Global Growth PED		7892	625	Occum Lines)	325.78 624.96
Standard Life Unit Trusts   100   Standard Life Pund Mingred Life   100   Standard Life Pund Mingred L		1940	2064	- 1	Preferrati Income		6157	000	(Accum Units)	13021
STAS		6655	97	١	Standard I Ke I ton Ton		287.5			92.09
Section of the Fund Magnet Ltd   Section of the Fund Magnet Ltd   Global Advantage acc   State   Sta		6709	67A3		DESCRIPTO	Spinish Cit	IJSRG	ı	Key	
State		3555	378.2	1.81		ATOS	45.0			idend
Artical   5946   53.74   107     Artical   5956   63.74   107     Basistan   593   595   197     Artical   5956   63.74   107     Basistan   593   595   197     Artical   5956   63.74   107     Basistan   593   595   197     Artical   5956   63.74   107     Arti	Ħ	1616	1719	0.55	Global Advantage Acc Income Advantage Isc	5191	5217	153		
Personal recome and Sept. Sept		7345	67.74	019	UK Equity Giti Acc	4186	6187	344	self former	ty 'bid'
Cos Gwith 6056 6448 d190 UK EQ Haylin to loc 4059 4335 d199 uK Equity Gwith Acc 4059 4335 d199 available from fund mar required to the first of the first o		59.7	1695	167	Premier income inc	48.26	5080	d777		
## 209 204  ## 109		78.80	84.53	d150	Managad Acc UK Eq Hatt Inc Inc	6118	66.36	139	Copies of the m	nost rece
Unit Trusts Lid   Unit Trust	v#h	7109	224		UK Eq High Inc Acc Standard Life Tat Mino	d-1	56.73	61170	available from fr	nud man
A more extensive list of and Managed Funds, representations assess to a more extensive list of and Managed Funds, representation and Managed Funds, representation across the more extensive list of and Managed Funds, representation across the more extensive list of and Managed Funds, representation across the more extensive list of and Managed Funds, representation across the more extensive list of and Managed Funds, representation across the more extensive list of and Managed Funds, representation across the more extensive list of and Managed Funds, representation across the more extensive list of and Managed Funds, representation across the more extensive list of and Managed Funds, representation across the more extensive list of and Managed Funds, representation across the more extensive list of and Managed Funds, representation across the more extensive list of and Managed Funds, representation across the more extensive list of and Managed Funds, representation across the more extensive list of and Managed Funds, representation across the more extensive list of and Managed Funds, representation across the more extensive list of and Managed Funds, representation across the more extensive list of and Managed Funds, representation across the more extensive list of an across the more extensive list of an across the more extensive list of an across the more extensive list of a construction across the more extensive list of across the more extensive list of a construction across the mo	Unit Trusts	UH H			UK Equity Gen Inc	7726		208	Lednest.	
Intel® 1.0553 3565 052 Inches Acr 2065 3172 Inches				on (	Gat & Fact lett inc Gates Larg Con Acr	3103	3282	0696	A more extensive	e list of
his) 3857 3817 682 European Acr 2363 3172 INCAIGNIG Offer prices is				000	Pacific Basin	5898 5051	62.67 53.67		performance wit	thin eacl
	(hts)						3172		including offer a	VICES IS

# Bosra moves towards Pretty Polly perch searce off much of the opposition and heads for the this century has started at shortwords and that was the illusmercy. Tan Wassell, of Ladmercy. Tan Wa

can overcome a field that is likely to be low in numbers and

quality at Newmarket on 5 May. The absence of her closest market rival, Blue Duster, was confirmed yesterday, along with that of A Votre Sante, the French filly that made such a hig impact on her seasonal return

comes Punchestown and the

third of the spring jumping

Festivals gets underway today

with six British raiders. Coulton.

Nakir and Sound Reveille con-

test the day's richest race, the

M W Handicap Chase, against

the state of the s

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2429 2429 2429 2429

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 $\cdots _{i \geq j_{m_{2}}}$ 

Coulton leads raid on Ireland

After Cheltenham and Aintree a strong Irish team including

Sham's price again - she had al-ready moved to odds-on after her impressive win in Friday's Fred Darling Stakes - and the Henry Cecil-trained filly is now as low as 2-5 for the Classic with Ladbrokes,

That puts her on a lofty perch. Apart from Saucy Sue only one 1,000 Guineas winner

Klairon Davis, Sound Man and

Kimanicky runs in the Cham-

pion Novices' Hurdle, while

Richard Lee's Super Coin and

the Chris Broad-trained Land-

cd Gentry complete the party.

Strong Platinum.

won all nine of her starts as a

two-year-old. Even Sceptre, who won four of the five Classies in 1902, staned at 1-2 for the 1,000 Guineas and more recently One In A Million was he better over further than a evens in 1979, Ravinella 4-5 in 1988 and Shadavid 4-6 in 1991.

Bosra Sham seems likely to

any new drug designed to stop

horses, the sport's leading phar-

macologist claimed vesterday.

Professor Bob Smith, the

NAP: Fourth in Line (Chepstow 3.40) NB: Katherine's Pet (Pontefract 2.50)

mile, while there has been very little confidence behind Bint Shadayid since the Dubai trials.

Racing a nose ahead in battle against dope

warn of a "rash of dopings" if

dopers. From a technical point

of view our analysis could cope

"We are just ahead of the

the sport dropped its guard.

so substantiating the negative reports which had surrounded

"Sheikh Mohammed rcspects the wishes of David Loder," Stroud said, "and while he is very sorry for all connected with the borse, this is the right decision for the horse." Loder yesterday denied ru-

them." Professor Smith said.

"Minds are being applied to

doping all the time where large

sums of money are involved.

Word about new drugs spreads

very quickly. If we were to let

down our guards there would be

a rash of dopings breaking out.

Dream 5.00 Safecracker

SIS . RACING

SLINESPED FIRST TIME: (4:85). VINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None

**FOLKESTONE** 

200 Mansab 230 Jerry Cutrona 3.00 Helio Dol-ly 3.30 Watch The Fire 4.00 Ajdar 4.30 Pip's

DRAW ADVANTAGE: High numbers best of 190yd to 1m 1f
Right-basel umbahang course with a run-m of one furious
Course is for W of form off A20, Westenbarger statum (ser-

Oub \$12 (under-16s free); Tattersalls \$8.50, Course Enchange

LONG-OISTANCE RUNNERS: Davealib (2.30) has been sent 227 miles by Dillagin Jones from Elail baf, Mrd Glamorgan; Petron Pride (5.00) sent 226 miles by M Bolton from Slavena, Wilsdure; Durhant

(11K) sera 218 miles by R Strapson from West Buckland, Somewes.

2.00 WALMER APPRENTICE MAIDEN STAKES

(CLASS F) £3,450 added 3YO 6f 189yds

from London, Charing Cross Judgman course. ADMISS

STALLS: Straight - stands' side: T/E 1m2f - outsub

14, plus \$4 for each occupant, CAR PARK: Free,

said. "The problem has been that she has suffered a recurthe filly since over the weekend. rence of a back problem which troubled ber last season. It didn't interfere with her runs last

year, but this year it has reared up at the wrong moment." Also in explanatory mode was Pat Eddery who will ride Cecil's Storm Trooper in the 2,000,

ried that fast ground would not suit Danehill Dancer, who is a bit of a heavy horse. Yet, saying that, he will have a first-class chance if it is good ground."

1,000 Galmens (Newmarket, 5 May): Lad-brokes; 2-5 Bosra Snam, 5-1 Birti Sakabil, 6-1 Brn Shadayd, 16-1 Dance Sequence, 20-1 others; Corat, 4-9 Bosra Sham, 5-1 Birti Sakabil, 6-1 Birti Shadayd, 16-1 others.

chasers, Scotton Banks, Morceli and Jodami, are on course for Saturday's Whithread Gold Cup at Sandown - the last major event of the jumps season. Jodami, with 12st in the Whitbread, had a similarly austere burden

when second to Feathered Gale in the Irish National. "He has come on for that run," Anthea Farrell, daughter of Jodami's trainer, Peter Beaumont, said. Betting: Yote: 9-2 Scotton Bunks, 7-1 Feath-ered Gale, Morcek, 8-1 Life Of A Lord, 9-1 Jo-dam, Young Hustler, 10-1 Barton Bank, General Pusty, Superior Firesh, 12-1 others.

### Jodami fit for Whitbread

Three of the North's top

### PONTEFRACT

2.20 Captain Carat 2.50 Kathryn's Pet 3.20 Sea-Deer

3.50 Master Charter (nb)

HYPERION 4.20 Ladykirk 4.50 Sujud

GOING: Good to Firm (Good in places).

STALLS: 2m 1f - Centre; rest - inside. DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low.

Left-hand, undutating course.

Course is 1m NW of fown on APES ADMISSION: Club \$12; Packleck \$8; Silver Ring \$5,50. CAR PARE: Third Ring, car with four occupants, \$3, plus \$2 at turnstiles; rost free.

ELEADING TRAINERS WITH RUNNERS: Mrs J Rameden — 25 winners from 126 runners gives a success ratio of 19.5% and a profit to a 51 keel stake of \$15.0% Mrs M Reveley — 20 winners, 115 runners, 17.4%, -517.0%; 2 Hollinshead — 17 winners, 157 runners, 10.5%, -52.7%; H Ceell — (1 winners, 102 rutners, 10.4%, +513.8%, E LEADING JOCKEYS; E Fallon — 31 winners, 102 rutners, 10.4%, +502.13; L Dettori — 23 winners, 105 rides, 31.9%, +532.3%; E Darley — 19 winners, 170 rides, 11.2%, -507.12; W Ryan — 17 winners, 50 rides, 19.8%, -531.30, ELINKEREO FIRST TIME: Disco Boy (visored) (2.20); Touch A Million (visored) (3.50), WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATE: Non-LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Tykevor (4.20) has been sent 240 rules by Lady Herries from Angenering Park, W Sussex.

_		
	2.20	PONTEFRACT APPRENTICE SERIES (ROUND ONE) HANDI- CAP (CLASS E) £4,200 added 5f Penalty Value £2,819
٠.	2060-33	Office to the on the state of t
*		
1 4	300-003	JUST 806 (8) (D) (BF) U Fotherby) 5 Kentiewell 7 9 9 J Stockton (7) 15
3	6000-44	CAPTAIN CARAT (15) (Coin Webster) Mrs J Ramsden 5 9 7
4	124161	MINA (35) (D) U E WISSON I LEVIR 6 9 5
5	0500000	CALL TO THE BAR (241) (D) (M J K Dods) M Dods T 9 1
6	63-6200	DOMECIESKY (7) (D) (Miss Bridget Coyle) M Channon 88 13
7	010-333	MY CHERRYWELL (71) (D) (Mrs Cheryl L Owen) L Lloyd-James 6 8 13C Webb 18
8	0030-23	DASCO BOY (10) (5) P Bradford P Evans 6 8 8
9	00001	HIGHLAND FRANK (55) (D) (Tommy Staurton) 8 McMahon 3 8 6
io		BELINDA BLUE (15) (Mrs J Jackson) R Fahey 4 8 6
ū	004000-	DOUGH'S FOLLY (186) (D) (Tiletone Longs Stud M W Easterby 3 8 5
12		THE REAL PROCESS OF THE PROPERTY OF A PROPERTY OF STREET PARTY AND STREET
_		HICKLETON MISS (182) (D) (I E Harre) Mrs V Aconky 3 8 3
13		HARDRET'S BEALI (21) OR W VISION M W EXTENDY 3 B O
14		ERRECHT PARAGON (155) (D) (D C G Cooper) M Chaornan 7 7 13
15		KOMUD (10) (A C Brite)   Dornelly 3 7 12 CHallmell (7) 17
16	000000-	ROTHERFIELD PASK (155) (D) Wave J Thompson) C Smith 4 7 12,
17	000000-0	IVY LILIAN (24) (M E Hughes) W Bristourne 4 7 10 R Martin (5) 15
18	2000000-	SPINICH (1,44) (Gordon Batty) C Smith 3 7 10 April 10 April 10

- 18 doctored -BETING: 7-2 Kira, 9-2 Captain Carat, 5-1 Potraco, 5-1 Just Bob, 10-1 Highhand Faun, 12-1 Disco Boy, My Cherrysell, 14-1 others 1995: Pum First 5 9 5 Norbeley Hart 8-1 (L. Lloyd-James) 11 ran

1983: Pum First 5 9 5 Kimberley Hart 8-1 (f. Lloyd-James) 11 ran
FORMI GITIDE
PETRICO defied top weight to win a course-and-distance handicap last year and again showed
his living for the track when fourth to Royal Dome in September, beaten a short head and
two heads. He was unfucley on his regum when third to Canovas Heart at Warwick (Just
Bobolint) and Domielisky 16th of 20t and again met with trouble in running last time, fill
and me minor place behind Friendly Brave in a limited stakes at Folkestone. With a low draw, Ing the minor place behind Friendly Brave in a firmed stakes at Follostone. With a low draw, Petraco should be hard to beat. Nora is also drawn low and must have every chance of following up her recent Newcastle success, when Captain Cornet was fount and Befinda Blave hinth. As is usual over five furbrys, Coptain Carst was doing all his best work at the dealth. The uphall firish here is in his tayour but his winning aim is likely to come when put over sor furbries. Highland Flaver was well backed prior to winning a decent Wolverhampton select last time, her first form. She is not harshly treated in this, her first familiation, and is one to keep an eye on making her furf debut. Mick Easterby has his horses in good form and Doug's Folly appears tany predict for the start of her three-year-oid career, white Shibbsh, drawn one, possesses the early pace to make them all go.

Selections: PETRACO

2.50 BEAST FAIR MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS E)

		24,500 added 510 Att 21 reliebly value 25,204	
	4-	BACKOROP (205) (R E Sangster) P Chapple Hyern 9 0	13
		BATOUTOFTHEBLUE (28) (Dr. C.) Eremersoni W Hoeth 9 0	
	0-3	BROGHT ECLIPSE (USA) (19) (1 W Roob) 1 Pals 9 D	1
		PARRIOT'S HELL (Mark Tompkins Elice) M Tompkins 90	ĸ
	0-	SHOOTING LIGHT (171) (Lord Hammgorn M lervis 9 D	14
		TUDOR FULCON (VACA Has Stud) W Hagges 9 C	. 1
	44-	ALWAYS HAPPY (171) (Cheseley Park Study J Farshawe 8 9	. 2
	5-0	CRYSTAL WARRIOR (32) (V Greenes) D Nicholls 8 9	
	00-	HALLMELD (176) (W.R. Green) 7 Etherngon 8 9	1
	46	KATHRON'S PET (5) (Bill Brown) Mrs M Revoley B B	9 6
		LADY BENSON (B L Benson) W Brisbourne 89S Senden	1
	05	LUCTUNO (27) (N/cs A Staces) S Williams 8 9 R Fallon :	12
		- 12 declared -	

BETTRIC: 6-4 Backdrop, 4-1 Always Happy, 8-1 Bright Eclipse, Twior Felcon, 10-1 Betoutofthobbee, Ruthnyn's Pet, 14-1 Sheothag Light, 18-1 others
1995: Worldnews Estra 3 9 0 T Qurn 7-2 (P Cole) 10 ran
FORM GUIDE
With Peter Chappie-Hyam having made such a good start to the season, the signs are encouraging for BACKDROP. The Scenic coft was fourth of 1-4 in the Haydock (771 maiden won by Carburton on his only run at two and will be well suited by this tip. Always Happy firshed fourth in both her runs lost year, behind Jezyah at Lingfield and Shoarmt at Doncaster, and is the obvious alternative to Backdrop, but James Frashawe's runner may just need the run that but more. Bright Eclipse will have benefited from his recent Lingfield (Will outing and rates best of the others to have run. Parrocks HER Mark Tomplons and Tudor Falcon (William Haggael look best of the newcorners, but it is significant that both have already been galded.

Selection: BACKDROP

3.20 BENTLEY SELLING STAKES (CLASS G) £3,000 added 65

_		remary tende papero
1	1.02120	SEA NEW COTT ETA (A N Goodhen M Carracto 10 9 12 L Characto 2
2	00634-0	BILLE CRIT 480 (CD) (C Michael Wilson) M Dods 10 9 7
3	A DECEN	SOCIAL TWO COST IS PRODUCT P Hoteland S.S. 7
ĭ	35/222	SEA DEED ES (0) Mass N F Theaded O Chapters 7 9 7
5	1400.50	CHARGE CHEST (92) (TR (Paul Marrier)   A HOSE 49 /
ã	DD 2206	DOMANTARIA I ANY 1945 ICDA (I F Abbed P O Evens 5 9 2
ř	400.000	MARKET BY AND THE REPORT OF THE PROPERTY AND A MUNICIPAL 4 9 2
8	6-2	PRIMO LAD (7) IP F Coombes) W 0 M Turner 3 8 10 E Defficie 1
•		O Andread .

BETTING: 9-4 See-Deer, 7-2 See Deed, 9-2 Blaze Grit, 11-2 Prises Lad, 7-1 Brookheed Lady, 8-1

/TING: 9-4 see-t-ew, play two, 12-1 others play two, 12-1 others as: Brooklead Lady 4-8-2 K Darley 6-1 (P O Bans) 15 pm FORM GUEDE

1996: Brooksar Lady 4 8 2 K Darley 5-1 (P O Evans) 15 ran
FORMI GUIDGE

31UE SPOT is hardly the most consistent performer these days, but if he can notch another with anywhere, it is over the six furiongs here, scene of five of his fast six discrise. There was enough encouragement in his reeppearance eighth of 12 to Tinklers. Folly to justly an each-way interest today. Brookheed Lady won this race last year when fit from the all-westher and has similar cradentials today. She seems sure to go close, See-Deer finished 10 langths behind See Deell on the Southwell all-westher in February, out those placings are likely to be reversed on turf. See-Deer ran creditably to deed-heat for third behind Lago De Varance at Ripon on Thursday and has every chance of a first win in almost two years. Priace Lad chesed norms Lady Caroline Land or if foliastione last week on only his second start. He will improve for the run and over this longer trip. Once useful Smart Gaset, last of 21 to Cool Edge at Doncaster, may be suited by the drop in distance but us best versched for the time being.

outgoing chairman of the Euwith almost anything thrown at

Racing is narrowly winning its ropean Horserace Scientific Li-

battle against doping and has asson Committee, did however the ability to to detect almost warn of a "rash of dopings" if

[	4.20	CORN MARKET LIMITED STAKES (CLASS D) £5,100 1m 2f Penalty Value £3,566	added
3	00/5430	ETHARISTO (382) (Action Fictionics) J What 7 8 8	e Chan 1
2	02336-0	MOBILE SPRINTER (15) (Krammaher) R Hannon 498	Reld 3
3	231400.	SARLER'S WALK (202) (D) (A E Opperhame) G Wage 598	M HELT
4	131005-	TYPETYTOR (185) (D) (Seymour Brootstock (UP) Lnd Larly Hernes 6 9 8	Dollard S
5	064-	HUMOLINESS (196) (Shalfh Mohammed L Cuman 3 8 5	L Dettori 2
6	1.	LADYNIPK (220) (Dute of Sustenant J W Watts 3 8 2	atvertue 6
Т		MANAL GAZER (205) (Wilson Fox D Lodes 3 8 2	

BETTENG: 9-4 Sactor's Walk, 3-1 Navel Georg, 5-1 Noble Sprinter, 6-1 Ludyton, 13-2 Hymoseles

19-1 Tytoyrox, Churicias 1995: Florid 4 9 4 W Ryon Evens (H Cecol 4 non FORMI GUIDE LADYIGRIX overcame greenness to win her debut at Ayr last season and is very much the type to improve with age. Bill Watts has not had many numbers yet, but Sagebrush Roser managed a creditable third to Muster Charter at Newcastle for the stable and there should be a bit of value to be had with this Stip Anshor Ray, for whom stamms with surely be a strong suit. Humotarless improved with each run at two, winding up with a fourth to Forest Buck all Lebester. This son or Nashwan races a org carrier, review exacer, one out a montrolled in the race, combinably won her only start less season all Registro, but this is buggler and the form of David Loder's runners is not encouraging. Goot! Wragg's runners have tended to need an outing, so the exposed Sadder's Walk is passed over, as a Tylework who has a few pounds to find. One who will pose a threat is housed over, as a Tylework who will have benefited from his kernpton return in Nasard A Gueso's race and was third of 25 to Severtheres.

4.50 LEVY BOARD HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,100 added 2m 1f Penalty Value £4,013

2	5/400/0	AUDICIAL FIELD (11) (NETS E.E. NEWBOARD IN TIMER 798	Table
3	40/5-02	NORDIC SUN (69) (18 Statcher) LUbyd-tarnes 8 96	T WHEN
4	1/0100-	MAD (USA) (192) (Alan Brockley) / White 6 9 3.	Dale Cities
5		UPPER MOUNT CLAIR (17) (C E Britan) C Britan 692	
6		SHARTER (FR) (11) IL & R Roadings) R Hollinshead 5 8 10	
7		NOYAN (32) IC H McChel D Nichols 688	
8		TREMEROISTO (70) (Doug Marshall) Copt J Webon 6 8 7	
9		SUJUD (187) (14 R Charlot) Mrs J Ransden 4 8 3	
10		BOLD (2.807 (11) (G Love) E Alson 8 7 13	
11		GREEK HIGHT OUT (JA) (Surpa) Potators) J.L. Byrr 57 12	
17		TIAPPERIA (11) (The Five Himons Partnershot J Mache 5 7 12	
13		LIMO (USA) (196) (The Low Pijers Lat) L Jungo 5 7 11	
		PUNCH (212) MAS D WHERE N TEME 4 7 10	
		GREAT ORATION (11) (CD) Of D Harborngun Ltd F Welson 7 7 10	

Minimum weight: 7st 100. The handscap weight: Groot Oration 7st 7th.
BETTING: 7-3 Upper Mount Clair, 8-1 Hoyan, 7-1 Sajani, 8-1 Shadyr, Grook Night Out, 10-1 Bold
Back, 12-1 Nortic Son, 14-1 others
1996: Roberty Lee 7 9 5 K Derky 11-4 (Mrs. M Rovelys) 13 ran
Derman Chilary

1996: Roberty Lee 7 9 5 K Derky 11-4 (Mrs. M Rovelys) 13 ran

RECEN NIGHT OUT was 6th out of the hardical when fourth to Cross Talk at Catteriok last month and that has affected her handscap when fourth to Cross Talk at Catteriok last month and that has affected her handscap man awarety, but she scored by 10 lengths from Sworthing at Southwell last time off today's rating and is worth the chance to reproduce the form on turf. Les Eyra's mare was a good third to Alchar Blue over a styaing trip here in October and the step up in distance as very much in the takenon. Noyan proved no metath for Shadowan at Donastism on the opening day of the turf season, but he sold function deal of the others in the 20-strong field, including Upper Mount Clair, that to Warmaghamaire in the 20-strong field, including upper Mount Clair, that to Warmaghamaire in herrotom's Queen's Prize, and Shaldy, staying-on skith to Sudden Spin at Beviney, serior out of it either. Splind, a cheep purchase out of Tom Jones's yeard and bred for starring, is one to note on this first run for Lynda Ramsceru, while it is a stay's really well but may just need the race.

Selections GREDN NIGHT OUT

5.20 SPRING MAIDEN FILLES STAKES (CLASS D) £5,100 added 370 of Penalty Value £3,615 2. BOLLEN HOUSE (318) (Late Westbook) T Easterby 8 11...

	4-	mental similar from the sun seed a manual o manual	
Z	D-	BUDBY (206) (B H Fami A Survey 8 11	R Hate 2
3		DESPOL DULHOND IN 8 PRISONS & CHOICE B 11	Fedora
ŧ		DAME MISS-P (11) of Fast A bins 8 11	Tate
5	ō	FEET ON FRE (15) (B t Berson) W Bristourie 8 11	\$ Sanders 1
5		FRIEDRIC LADY GAZA Perrell 8 Saugh 8 11	
7	430-	PYORS GET (223) (Maksourn Al Maksourn) 8 Harbury 8 11	P Bloomfield 1
		MISHOWEER (213) (Aboute A) Wheley J Farshare 8 11	D Harrison
,	_	MISTIC MAD (Shekh Mohammed ) W Wats 8 11	Carrol 1
D	5	MICOLA'S PRINCESS (21) U O Grahami 8 Maketon 8 11.	& Carter
ŭ	0-	PIGEON HOLE (340) (Lord Carrervon) R Harmon 8 11	Reid
2		POWER PRINCESS (206) (F & Downes) J Picture 8 11	X/###
3	2.	PROMPTLY (241) (Jernes Wigen) M Strute 6 11.	
4		BOCKY STREAM (G F Pembergar) R Wheeler 8 11.	A Coffees 1
E	THO: 7-4	Promptly, 5-1 Bully, 13-2 Pigeon Hole, 7-1 Chine Wiss-P, M	yetic Hald, 10-1 Boll

With the lowest draw in her favour, PROMPILY on an go one bester than when held a neck by My Manam in a Newmarket marken in August. She will stay further than this in due course. Bollin Josenne also finished runner-up on her sole juvenile start, to Blue his at Heydook (5h). She is a big danger. This looks a much better race than the one in which Devine Missipes is a big danger. This looks a much better race than the one in which Devine Missipes is a big danger. This looks a much better race than the one in which Devine Missipes and his Beddby is a possibility, along with Bit Watts's Mujtahid fifty Mystic Marid. The extra furious should help Missibe's Princess, fifth to Spicing et Notingfart.

Selection: PROMPTLY

### RACING RESULTS

BRIGHTON 2.00: 1. CASTLE HOUSE (T Quinn) 2-1 cunte: 2. Secoldo 9-1; 3. Electorial Par-2.00: 1. CASTLE HOUSE (\*) Quinn' 2-1 favourte: 2. Seenide 9-1: 3. Entertrial 3-1. 6 ram. nech. 2v.: U Alecturst, Upper Lambourn). Tota: £2.20: £1.10, £4.20. Dual Forceas: £1.50. CSF: £1.65.8.
2.30: 1. APOLLO RED (Candy Momb) 5-1; 2. Alexight Than 20-1: 3. Friendly Barve 9-4 ft fav. 3 man. 9-4 ft fav. [aggleswick Ciri. (4th). hd. 4s. (A Moore, Belgitton). Felte: £4.10; £1.70, £6.30. DF: £26.80. CSF: £61.97.
3.00: 1. NUNGS HARMONNY DRI Enderly evens fav. 2. Clearano 5-1; 3. Rowslandsone Stud 11-2. 6 ram. 4s. 2s. IP Molan, Ogbourne Malsey). Tota: £2.10; £1.10, £2.00. DF: £3.50, CSF: £6.49.
3.00: 1. MY BEST VALENTINE (A Whelan) 14-1; 2. Jo Mincimus. 4-1 (av.; 3. Ertion 9-14-1; 2. Jo Mincimus. 4-1 (av.; 3. Ertion 9-14-1;

3.30: 1. MY BEST VALENTINE (A Whelen)
14-1; 2, Jo Manimus 4-1 far; 3. Ertica 92. 8 ran. nk, hd. (! White, Wendower). Tota: f13:30; £1:20, £2:90, £1:40, . DF: £31:20, CSF: £83:34. Theast: £70.75.
4.00: 1. BAB OF TRICKS (F Quann) 5-2.R far; 2. Grandes Oralles 5-2.R far; 3. Nigels Choice 7-1. 9 ran. 5, 1-k, (S Dow, Epsorn). Tota: £2:80; £1:30, £1:50, £1:40, DF: £4:90, CSF: £9:85. Thu: £22:00, NR: £9:mingy; £3:44. EBSZER ERBE (I Quann) 7-4; 2. Mingels (I Qua 4.30: 1. FREZELERE (1 Qurn) 7-4: 2. Ma-Jor Dandes 4-1; 3. Forever Noble 10-1.9 jor Dandes 4-1; 3. Forever Noble 10-1.9 jor. 6-4 fav Steller Line (4th). 1, 8. U Dunlop, Arundel). Total: £3.20; £1.10, £1.60, £4.50. Dr. £9.20. CSF; £9.48, Tno: £29.50.

5.00: 1. AUTUNIN COVER (D Biggs) 8-1; 2. College Night 5-1; 3. Victory Team 2-1 fav. 11 ma. ½, 1¼, (R Flower, Jedragion). Tota: £6.80; £2.70, £1.80, £1.90. DF; £19.60, CSF: £33.46, Tricast: £73.89, Trics Place 6: £92.46. Place 5: £45.50.

HEXHAM 2.20: 1. HIGHLAND WAY (M Driver 10-11 fav; 2. Uk Hyglene 5-1; 3. Kalpete 9-2. 10 ram. 2-1; 5; (Marran Tochuntar). Pote: 52-00; 51-10. 51-60; 61-30. Dual Forecas; 64-50. CSF: 25.76. Vinc. 53.20. Non Run-rans MLFles Starmer Bot.

pers: M+Fre, Starmeck Fort.

2.50; 1. TRUE SCOT (R Johnson) 5-2; 2. Frailingen 25-1; 3. The Stitcher 11-10 fav. 13 ras. 25, 24; IP Cheestrough, Total 53:70; £1.10, £9.10, £1.40, DP £194,00.

CSP: £61.14. Trice £71.30.

3.20: 1. OPERFLOWING RIVER (A Triangular States) 1. OPERFLOWING RIVER (A Triangular States) 1. Manual 12-1; 3. Cont Worth. 2018-1; 2. More Joy 12-1; 3. Cool Weather 6-5 lay. 10 can. shehd, 17. (J Wade). Total 56.60; £1.60, £2.80, £1.10. DF: £36.20. CSF: £88.56. Trig: £43.10. After 3 stemant's

ngury, result uneltered.
2.50: 1. BOLD PURSUIT (b) Owner 9-4 fax 2. Rudfa Pride 4-1; 3. Top Fella 33-1.16 ran 3-4, 2. U FesSeraldi. Tota: £3.10: £2.50, £2.10, £8.30. DF: £8.50. CSF.

4.20: 1. SASKIA'S HERO (D Byrne) 4-1; 2. Positive Action 10-1; 3. Heathview 11-1. 12 rpn. 3-1 fav Rash of Rastm. 24, 24, 24, U Bortomley). Tota: £5.90; £2.30, £4.60, £3.10. Qual Forecast: £55.50. CSF: £43.61. Tricast: £386.93. Tric: £68.00. NR: Port In 3.40: 1. FURTHER FLIGHT (M Hills) 2-1; 2. Assessor 15-8; 3. Source Of Light 7-4 tev. 4 rsn. 2-4; 3. IB Hills, Limbourn, Total 22.90. DP: 13.20. CSF: 15-66. MR: Impac 4.50: 1. RASCALLY (A Thorreon) 11-2: 2.

4.50: 1. RASCALLY (A Thomson) 11-2 & Exampler 10-1; 3. Deer Enaby 12-1 1.1 ren. 3-1 fav Northern Squire (6th), 2, 3. MASS I. Scidnin, 7ote: 56.40; 52.10, 52.80, 52.80, 52.80, 50.41 Forecast: 523.80, CSF: 558.53, Tho. sct. 5500.35. Tho: 592.20. NR: Any Dream net: 546,60. Oundpot: £17.20.

Place 6: £49.28. Place & £43.59. Place 6: £49.28. Place 8: £43.59.

NOTTHYGHAM

2.10: 1. THE WAD J! Forusel 12-1; 2.

Weathers Welcome 16-1: 2. Pride Of Whatley 7-1. 20 res. 11-2 for The Fishy Farmer. 2v. 1. ID Richards, Turnish, Total 27: 51.50, £1.30, £1.370, £4.30, Dual Forusel £193.14. For £202.31. NR Cardy's Design. 2.40: 1. BOLLIN HURRY IM Sich 13-2; 2. Desive 12-1; 3. Bearso 5-1 for 4. Missist Grandle 1-1. 23 res. 1. 2v. (T. Exsterly, United., Total £1.40; £2.40, £3.00, £1.50, £2.70. Dual Forusel £2.40; £3.00, £1.50, £2.70. Dual Forusel £20.60.

CR 5-20.96. Trace £413.21. For £271.80.

NR 5-75 Lo.

True £412.00.
5.10:1. DOCKLANDS LENG (K Derley) 51.2. Enactly 16-1; 3. Classic Bellet 13-2.
11 ran, £1 fav Sh for Gold (4th), 1.v., 3.
18 McMath, Neumarket). Total £6.50;
£1.80, £6.80, £1.60, DF: £88.90, CSF: £89,78, Trto: £158,30. Jackpot: Net worr. Poet of £20,702.44 car-rest forward to Portletrag today. Placepot: £1,728.90. Quadpot: £86.80, NR Straig. 310: Lealleys Sunset (Surger) 7-

Tre: £412.00.

West 4.10: 1. GOLD SLADE (Mrs L Pesros) 5-

18v. 2. Ceriton Express 14-1: 3. Fm A Nat. Man 33-1: 4. Cheveley Denoes 70-1. 23 ms. 1-b. st.-hd. (Percs. Newmerlet). Total 55: 70: £1-60, £3.10. £19.10. £1.10. DF: £60.20. CSF: £73.96. Theast £2.017.42. The £356.20.

4.40: 1. FARELLICH E. R. Sent 7-1: 2. Circ.

4.80: 1.1-8.80.00 (1.1.9) / 1.2 tra-cusa 20-1; 3. Embryonic 10-1; 4. Cusarjo 12-1, 20 ran, 11-2 inv Beña Sedona, Nh. 8. (C. Smith, Wedingure), Tota: 12-10; 12-20, 151-10, 12-20, 11-70, Dual Forecast 2189-30, CSF: 5152-21, Trasst £1,360.01.

Place &: 51,274,73, Place 5: £240.53.

	2.30	FOLKESTONE TOWN LIMITED STAKES (CLASS E) £4,200 added 6f 1.89yds
1		ALLEX CYRNAND (10) (10) M Bell 5 9 8 M Feating 1
Ž		SCHARMHORST (15) (0) 5 Don 4 9 8
3		WARRED BEACH (22) EDI G L Moore 598 S Windowsky 3
4		DAYSALIE (15) (D) D Haydn Jones 6 9 6
5		OFFICE HOURS (28) C Copy 4 9 6
6		THE STACER (240) (09 ) Jerions 4 9 6
7		JESSETY CLITRICHIA (7) (CES) N Catadran 3 8 8 Dans O'Nell (6) 2
9	00-0	ANTARCTIC STORM (23) E Dunion 3 8 7 Paul Eddery 4
9		CASTAN (199) 1 Durlop 3 8 77 Quies 8
10		EUROBOX BOY (10) GB) A Janes 3 8 7

ETTING: 2-1 Jerry Cutrona, 9-2 Affer Cyrtrio, 5-1 Walldid Hea an, Scharehorst, 8-1 The Stager, Barobox Boy, 10-1 others

3.00	£3,000 added 2YO 5f
00	REBURE (5) R Johnson Houghton S 11. Dearen Mortatt (3) S
	WITHOUT FRIENDS R Harmon 8 11 Dane 074e/0 (5) S
236	HELLD DOLLY 65 N. Nory 86
	MOLLEY (21) M Charron 86
	MUPPET (10) Miss Gay Kelleway 8 6 R Cocheste 3
	RUN LUCY RUN R GUEST 8 6. W Woods 7
	WHITEZ RED J Brother 8 6
	WHO TOLD VICKY I Moore 8 6 J F Egan 4
	- 8 decimes -

3.30	BARHAM MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDER STAKES (CLASS E) £4,200 added 3YO 6
	SIANES (CLASS E) 14,200 audeu 310 0
2300-0	EXTRA HOUR (194) W Mur 9 D R Cockrane
	GOVERNOR'S BID MIS L Jewes 9 D
6:00-6	MAN OF WIT (10) A Janes 9 DT Quian S
56022-0	NEVER THINK TWICE (10) h har 90
5.0	SPOTTED EAGLE (31) R Harron 9 D Dane O'Neil (5)
90-2	BLESSED SPIRIT (29) C Wai 8 9 W Woods 8
	DARRING VENTURE (21) 7 J Naugroon 8 9
-	PRST GALLERY R Fower 8 9 D Mags !
3	WATCH THE PIRE (15)   Barks 8 9
ETTING: 2-1	Blossed Spirit, 3-1 Watch The Fire, 4-1 Man of Wit, 6-1 Ex
	Never Think Tuice, 14-1 Daries Versture, 20-1 others

2	1.00	LEVY BOARD HANDICAP (CLASS E £4,200 added 1m 7f 92yds
1	0550-00	WARM SPELL (17) (C) G L Moore 6 9 12 S Whitworth
2		MIZYAN (85) J Banks 8 9 6 Quirm
3	600P-06	MILAK (21) 11 Hans 491 F Egen
4		COURBARD (11) 5 Dow 4 90T Quinn
5	06-1252	ARDAR (11) Mas Gay helenay 5 6 11R Cochrane 1
6	3-0-203	DURHAM (10) R Smoson 5 8 8
7		SOOJAMA (7) (CD) R M ROWS 68 2
8		ALL THE JOYS (70) (RF) C Geer 5 7 12M Fenton
9	060-15	THE LAD (46) (68) L Montague Hall 7 7 30 Months Doyer (7)
10		BOHTERAN (11) PO'SLANON 5 7 10
		- 10 declared -
Att	drawn well	fit: 7st 10th, frue handicop weights: The Lad 7st 8th, 8th
_	T	

ING: 4-1 Alder, 9-2 Durbow, 5-1 Courbert, Mizyan, 6-1 Imlak, Th

4	1.30	DOVER HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,200 added 1m 4f
	251000- 30-5011 500050- 300008- 05/000-	YET AGAIN (209) (D) 8 Harbury 4 9 13
	6000y	PRINTES CAMPLE (1289) Mrs Ligned 8 9 4 C Restor 2 ASHEY HILL (264) R Rove 5 9 1 R Cochanne 4
		PRESH LOOK (136) R Speer 4 9 1 J Quinn 1 YELLOW DRAGON (19) 8 Pearte 3 8 11 M Honry (5) 7
D	30600-4	JEAN DE PLOKETTE (JA) R Speer 5 88
2	00000-0	NORTHERN SPRUCE (JU) A Foster 4 8 0
4	3600. 0000-	TRENDY AUCTIONEER (1,259) Mrs L Jewil 8 T 11
		- 14 declared -

1)		Fastini Gold, Fast Forward Fred, 16-1 others
1	5.00	TIM FREEMAN HANDICAP (CLASS £3,450 added 3YO 1m 1f 149yds
1	300-2	BASOOD (29) E Durlop 9 7
2		DOSSETTES (19) (RF) R Harwon 9 4
3	50-0246	DENIGEON PRINCESS (32) (8F) M Channon 9 4_R Hughes
4		PETROS PRIDE (188) M Boton 9 4 Out
5		SAFECRACKER (33) J Hills 9 2
6	000-6	SPIRAL PLYER (52) M Usher 9 2
Ť	0050-	MADAM MARASH (185) A Foses 8 11
8	435-544	MORY'S GRAB HERE (15) K hory 8 8
9		CONDOR PROCE (15) 8 Meston 8 8 F Edit
10		EFFICACIOUS (15) C Bensteed 8 6
11		1AHM (231) K hory 6 6 D Biggs
12	600000-	SUVIET SAKET (188) P Mechell 8 3
13	D0D-	ASTRA MARTIN (182) P Murphy 8 3
14	50-1332	BARDWICK (24) N Graham 8 3M Penting
15		SIBERIAN MYSTIC (304) P Murphy 7 12 N Adam

RETENE: 4-1 Resoud, 5-1 Relimick, 7-1 Sefectacker, 10-1 Domethes, 12-1 Dungeon Princeto, hory's Grab files, Efficacions, 14-1 others

### CHEPSTOW

2.10 The Brud 2.40 Sparkling Yasmin 3.10 Welsh Legion 3.40 Fourth in Line 4.10 Frozen Drop 4.40 FORESTAL (nap) 5.10 Hamilton Silk

GOING: Good to Soft.

Eleft-hand, undulating course with run-in of 340yds.

Escecourse is on A466. Chepatow and station (Cardill – Gloucester line) is 1 stude away, ADMUSSION: Club 514; Tatiersalis 510 (QAPs E6). Course 55 (QAPs 53). CAR PARE: Prec.

WINNERS IN LAST SEVEN DATE: None.
LONG-DISTANCE EUNNESS: Born Deep (4.10) has been sent 225
rules by 8 Rothwell from Matton, North Yorkshire; Change The Reign
(4.10) sent 164 nities by Mas A Embirecus from Newmarker, Sulfolk.

2	2.10	REYNARD NOVICE CHASE (CLASS E) £4,200 added 2m 3f 110yds
1	541343	FOOLS EFFRAND (SP) (SP) (Sp) (Sp) (6 11 6 A P Methy
2	FFP	RUSSIAN BART (41) R Rose 6 11 D
3	40P/0-0	THE BRUD (100) 5 Sherwood 8 11 0
•		THE GO AHEAD (47) T Forest 6 11 0 A Thorston
5	00	THE WAYMARD BISHOP (129) Mrs L Toylor 7 11 D
8	277575	WELSH CUTTAGE (35) 1 G/ford 9 11 0P Filde
7		VERYVEL (15) (0) J M Bradley 5 10 12
8		AWAYWITHTHEFARRES (87) R Phillips 8 10 8
ğ		LYRICAL SEAL DEST O French Davis 6 10 9 S McMail
īD		WOODSIDE LADY (915) J Nations 8 10 9

ETTING: 5-2 Foots Brand, 7-2 The Go Ahand, 4-1 Veryvel, 6-1 The Bruc 1 Ression Bert, 12-1 The Weyward Bishop, 10-1 others

DEBUTANTES MARES NOVICE	HURDL
SPREST GALE (47)   Forster 6 11 D	A Thorse
CAROLES CRUSADER (47) G Balong 5 11 0	R Greet
CAVENDISH ROSE H Kavenesh 5 11 0	dehend Gue
PENCHEN (SO E Abor 5 11 D	W Melada
COLDET ME VECTOR OF DIAME A 10 13	APMO
	DEBUTANTES MARES NOVICE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 2m 4 MARY JINE (LS) 09,8 Edept 5 116  BEST LEFT R BUSING 6 110  BRIEFY GALLE (47) T FORSE 6 110  CAVENDER ROSE H KENNERS 5 110  CAVENDER RANDER (47) E BRIEFS 5 110  CAVENDER RANDER (55) N HENDESON 8 110  DIANGUS SCOUNTEY (55) F TUCER 6 110  FANCY MARCY MAS C JOHNEY 5 110  FLORED (55) C NEST 6 110  GLISTENEYS DAWN 5 C NOTES 6 110  MACY MARCY DUCK (25) B BRIEFS 6 110  MACY MARCY DUCK (25) B BRIEFS 6 110  MACHINETTE (13) A CROPE 5 110  SPENSING SS) R AINET 5 110  SPENSING SSI R SI S 110  SPENSING SSI R SI S 110  SPENSING SSI R SI S 110  SPENSING SSI SSI S 110  SPENSIN

3.10 DUNRAVEN WINDOWS SOUTH & WEST WALES POINT TO-POINT CHAMPIONSHIP HUNTER CHASE (CLASS H) £5,000 3m 5 27 GEE DOUISE VOU (2.257) | Turoch 10 12 3 ... Mr B Tulloch (7)
7 .000 HETROSTYLE (1.090) H Laws 13 12 3 ... Mr P Williams (7)
8 O' OSCEDIA (1.475) Mas M Rec 10 12 3 ... Mr A Publicas (7)
9 PESPO PATCULEN (1801) O White 11, 12 3 ....... Mr M Buckson (7)
10 32-072 WHITER'S (1.007) (372) | Jones 13 12 3 ...... Mr A Backing (7)
11 (2255 CELTIC DAUSTIER (2.39) H Laws 7 11 12 ....... Mr A White (7)
12 (00005) MAJOR BERT (650) 6 Spence 8 11 12 ...... Mr A White (7)
13 MISS MILLISTON D Goldsvorty 8 11 12 ..... Mr A White (7)
14 STEER (ASK N 1.008 7 11 7 .................. Mr A Spence (6)
15 CTTMS: 11-4 Gook's Gold, 7-2 Wetsh Legion, 7-1 Osceola, 9-1 Gee Double You, 10-1 Bancyfells Boy, 12-1 Miss Millistrook, 14-1 others

3.40 HANCOCKS HB HANDICAP HURDLE

(CLASS B) £7,000 added 2m 110yds 1 11P-370 IOSSAR (42) (0) M POS 5 11 10 Jones 1 1-5532 FOURTH IN LATE (10) (0) J Elevent 5 10 9 R Johnson (3) 3 0/20-708 MAJOR BUSLER (13) (0) G BACTS 7 10 6 A P McCoy 4 000434 SUPPENE MASTER (10) (D) Mcs C Johnsey 6 10 OR Farrant 5 122146 TOUCH SILVER (10) (D) H Manners 8 10 9 ...... A Dowling (7) 5 doclared -Minimum meight 10st. True handicap weight Supreme Master 8st 9th, Touch Siver 857 Str. BETTRUC 5-4 Nassair, 9-4 Fourth in Line, 9-2 Major Bugler, 12-1 Suprame

4.10 LONG HAUL HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £5,100 added 3m 2f 110yds 1/35P-1F DON'T LIGHT UP (38) (D) Mes V Witame 10 12 O.R Johnson

16 1972721 WATERFORD CASTLE (41) K Bally 9 10 10 ... T J Mi 

- 22 declara! -Minimum weight: 10st. True handisap weights: Holy Sting & Leinthell Princess 9st 13th, Sianey Prance 9st 7th, Salbombe Herbour 8st 10th. BETTRNE: 8-1 Don't Light Up, Hillwell, 9-1 Nickle Joe, Nickley, 10-1 kly Main Man, Waterford Castie, 12-1 Born Deep, Frozen Drop, Jonanske Clas-sic, 14-1 Cythere, Diamond Fort, 18-1 others

4.40 RABBIT NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) (DIV - 15 fectared BETTING: 9-2 Moune Bird, 6-1 Darius The Great, 7-1 immense, Forestal,
8-1 Drakestone, 10-1 Fabelous Moto, 12-1 Mabler, 20-1 others

5.10 RABBIT NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) (DIV E) £2,500 added 2m 110yds 48164P DRESS DANCE (22) N R Michel 6 11 8 Sophie Mitchel (5)
12120 HARLING SDA (28) (CD) N Poe 4 11 8 \_\_\_\_\_ D Bridgenter
023410 HICHORE (66) (0) (BP) C Weston 5 11 8 \_\_\_\_\_ D Forti
410 TRESCRI (15) (0) N/S N Jores 6 11 8 \_\_\_\_\_ D Forti
SHIMA CEMIC Brocks 5 11 2 \_\_\_\_\_ S Michel

BETTING: 4-1 Hamilton Site, 5-1 Incatanta, Twin Sailor, 7-1 China Genz, Rippance, 10-1 Drass Dance, 12-2 Millitrone, Sweet Trentino, The Quads, 18-1 others

### **Racers** enjoy a vital respite

**Sailing** STUART ALEXANDER reports from Hyères

An enforced day off yesterday be-cause of too much wind was both

an irritation and a blessing for those on a roll in the regatta here. Shirley Robertson, leading the Europes, and Joho Merricks and Ian Walker, third in the 470s, wanted to keep their run

of form going. But they were

also aware of the value of a rare

day off in what is becoming an

increasingly punishing schedule. After three races on a breezy Sunday, Walker said he was "absolutely knackered". The reason is that sailing is becoming phys-

ically more stressful. It demands athleticism, the body is often severely contorted, the boats are awkward, and the track is bouncy. With races lasting around 45 minutes, competitors are looking at the equivalent of two or three 10,000m races a day for six consecutive days when they go to the Olympics. Merricks and Walker came here knowing they could have to finish 19 races.

For windsurfers the position is even harder because a former rule, largely unenforceable, that competitors could not use their arms and bodies to pump the sail, thus creating greater speed, was dropped. Now, competitors are involved in frenzied pumping all the way up the course. The calorie burn is enormous and the potential for muscle breakdown worryingly high.

Yet there is an acceptance that the physical, rather than cerebral, side of sailing will continue lo grow in importance, though both still have a part to play, as does engineer-ing and technology.

A change of boat has meant a rethink for Britain's Soling trio of Andy Beadsworth, Barry Parkin and Adrian Stead, They came to the Freech Olympic week with the knowledge that, over the past mooth, they had proved they could compete with the best. But, as in motor racing, the

margins are so tight they need to retune a piece of equipment they have not used for nine months in order to ensure a place in the lop eight after the fleet racing to put them in the match-race play-off.

### **Below-par Faido routed** by Roberts

Colin Montgomerie shot a final 69 to finish as the leading British player while the overnight leader, Loren Roberts, closed with a 67 to win the MCI Classic at Hilton Head Island in South Carolina on a tournament record 19 under par.

Roberts' total of 265 gave him his third career win, three strokes clear of the runner-up Mark O'Meara and nine ahead of Montgomerie. Roberts' tournament record beat Hale Irwin's 18-under effort in 1994. O'Meara finished with a 66 to

compile 268 for the week, while the Masters champion, Nick Faido, finished on a five-underpar 279, one behind Greg Norman. Faldo, who hit a final-round 70, said: "I just wasn't focused. It's tough to give it that little hit extra thal you need to do well. Last week really took a lot out of me." Citing exhaustion, Faldo

pulled ont of next week's tournament in Greensboro and will next play in England at the Benson and Hedges International Open and the Volvo PGA. He returns to the US Tour at the Buick Classic in June, only a week before the US Open. Scores, Sporting Digest, page 25



### sport I did not believe any referee, at any level of the game, could properly be held responsible for a series of collapsed scrums

Rugby Football Union was unworried by the prospect of a win in the law courts for the young, paralysed former player against the referre. The RFU thought it would not - could not - bappen. Not for the first time. that

body has been proved wrong. On this occasion, however, my sympathies are entirely with the men in hlazers. I did not think it would happen either; not because rugby workings of the law, but because I did not believe any referee, at any level of the game, could properly be held responsible for a series of collapsed scrums.

Unless Mr Justice Curtis's decision is reversed on appeal, or unless the law as laid down by the learned judge is changed by Parliament, the

the utmost seriousness. It is all very well for Brian Campsall and other leading referees to advise: "Carry on reffing." No doubt their intentions are good, but they are no protection against legal action.

True, the judge said his decision applied only on the facts of the case. were principally that this was a youth fixture and that the referee sexual gratification. possessed any immunity from the had not even tried to enforce the crouch-touch-pause-engage procedure recommended by the RFU.

But this is not even part of the rules of the game. I am, I should explain, deliberately using "rules" rather than "laws" to avoid any confusion between the laws of rugby and the law of the land. The latter I shall

prima facie a crime. Consent is a de-fence only in certain defined circumstances. Thus sexual intercourse between consenting parties is not a crime, whereas if one of them objects it becomes rape or indecent assault. It is probably still a crime for one person, irrespective of con-These, as far as be was concerned, sent, to cane or whip another for what the lawyers call "purposes of

> Sado-masochistic activitles certainly do not count as what the lawyers also call "manly sports". These form the great exception to the law of consent being no defence. They include boxing, obviously, rugby almost as obviously, foothall and perhaps also cricket these days.

But there is one crucial qualification. The violence to which the par-



ticipant consents must be inflicted within the rules of the game. This is so irrespective of whether we are talking about civil or criminal law.

Thus punching an opponent is outside the rules of rugby, as the perhaps unfortunate Simon Dev-

Some people think that a few swift uppercuts are part of the game's rich tapestry. But the law takes a difer be prosecuted and fined or imprisoned like Devereux, but the punched can also take the punched can be provided in the punched can be provide punched can also take him to a civil court and demand damages.

So far, so straightforward. The developments of recent years are that the police have been more ready to prosecute, and injured players more willing to chance their arm in the civil courts.

The Ben Smoldon case, bowever, carries matters a good deal further. It does so in two respects. First, it was the referee, and not a player, who was held liable. And, secondly, no clear breach of the rules was established on the part of any-

ereux of Gloucester has discovered. one - even though the opposing self a fortunate young man to have emerged from the court without a

stain on his jersey. play football) are going to investigate what goes on in the front row, they are in for a difficult time. I am reminded of an exchange between the Irish prop Michael Fitzpatrick and a referee: "You're boring, Fitzpatrick." "You're none too enter-

taining yourself, ref." A collapsed scrum can bappen without fault on either side; a breach of the rules is often - even usually - difficult to spot. I have sometimes seen a scrum collapse on the defending side's 22 when that side has

the put-in. The attacking side then kicks the penalty. I cannot understand the referee's decision. For what front row would deliberately collapse a scrum in those circumstances - which are quite different from collapsing one to avoid a

pushover try? I would, bowever, alter the rules to give the side with the put-in an indirect free-kick after the first collapsed scrum. This would avoid a scries of them. I would also keep Her Majesty's judges well away from a subject which is too difficult for them. In the meantime, not only referees but also players will have to take out costly insurance. The only people who can be satisfied are our insurance companies - and, of course, the gentlemen in wigs, who never lose a single game.

### Surrey aiming to bridge the great divide

David Liewellyn talks to the men who are determined to ensure success returns to their cricket club through hard work, discipline and a hunger to win



Surrey are emerging from a winter of discontent with a spring in their step. Changes of chair-

man and enter executive, plus the appointment of a highly regarded cricket manager have ble since he has a business to helped push into the background recent financial and administrative problems and an incomprehensible lack of club," he says, "I think we have playing success for more than

The task of this triumvirate is to repuile a once great chab and get it back to winning ways. Even without the imports, the talent is there.

They have begun with a significant demolition. Surrey's own Great Divide - a wall split- year, found themselves owning ting the capped players' dressing-room from that of uncapped men - has gone.

As symbolism goes, it was fairly graphic. And although he does not want to take credit for it, Dave Gilbert, Surrey's cricket manager cum head coach. was the architect of the move. To me it just made common sense," the former Australian Test player, who took up his new post in February after spending three years as Queensland's assistant manager, says. "We are all in it together and to diseriminate by doing that off the field I felt was extremely damaging and it was hell of a contradiction then to expect everyone to mould together on the field."

He canvassed the senior players, who hacked him to the hilt and Surrey had taken the first tottering step on what everyone hopes will be the road to suc-

Gilbert's enthusiasm is matched by that of the new chairman, Mike Soper, a straight-talking businessman and the incoming chief execu-tive. Paul Sheldon, an orderly

"I want us to build a team within three years capable of winning all forms of competition." Sheldon says. To this end, he will apply the experience he gained in the publishing industry in creating an off the field team out of all the disparate components that go to

Soper has implicit faith in those around him and rather than get too involved in the day to day running of the club, don's role would not be possirun, is more concerned with membership. "I want Surrey to come back to being a members' to return to some of the tradi-

tional values, while still moving

sgm as well as last week's agm, at which The Oval authorities, having predicted a profit of some £270,000 at the start of the up to having turned that into a it of some £315,000 - a per-

### 'I want to build a team within three years capable of winning all forms

ceived loss of almost £600,000. The membership has been restless for some time. Too often over the last 10 years they have seen a side studded with gifted players grind to a shuddering halt in the chase for honours. Their last triumph came in 1982, when they won the NatWest Trophy, the last time they lifted the County Cham-pionship was in 1971, before many of the present side were

There has been frequent criticism that the comminee were more concerned in the past with Surrev's status as a Test match ground and that those five days in August were the focus of the whole season, but Sheldon is determined to change that perspective.

"Primarily we are Surrey County Cricket Club," he insists. "But Surrey the Test match ground and Surrey CCC make up the backroom staff at are interrelated. One cannot

any professional cricket club. exist without the other. And every time we have built another tier on the pavilion, we [the committee] have moved further away from the members. I want to change that."

So rather than allow his committee members to withdraw to some lofty ivory tower at the historic ground, Soper is planning to create a members' livison group to maintain links with what be and Sheldon recognise is the lifeblood of the club. "I with the times."

Seperation a block role, the hard to negotiate an awkward some as well as lock week's asset that happened 35 or 40 years ago. I like to talk about how the second XI are doing. Modern-day cricket. I am a club cricketer."

On the field, there is no doubt about how things will go. Gilbert has a straightforward philosophy. "We play sport for fun, for enjoyment, for recre-ation," he says. "Of course, once it becomes your livelibood, in some respects it becomes a serious husiness, but even then if you cannot bave that fun aspect I think you might as well give it up."

But he is a hard man, and coupled with that fun aspect is As expected England A won this perhaps the core of antipodean success over the years. The for-mula for success is hard work, discipline and a hunger to win." Gilbert explains. Twe been absolutely delighted with the way the players bere have responded. There have been some tough pre-season sessions, but never once have I beard some-

one complain. He is not foolisb enough, nor are Sbeldon and Soper, to promise trophies this season. but Gilbert has a two-year contract and he says: "I'd like to make an impact in that time. I am very ambitious to go places and obviously I see my longterm future in Australian cricket, but while I am here I will give it everything I bave. I'd love nothing more more than to be part of the Surrey set-up that knocks off the Aussies when they come over here next year.
That would be fantastic."

Barriers are coming down at The Oval, and all that is left now is the hurdle of barnessing the talent and turning Surrey into a winning club.



Cut and runs: Graham Thorpe forces away on the off side during his innings of 141 not out at Chelmsford yesterday

### Thorpe's sights on 21st century

DEREK PRINGLE

reports from Chelmsford

England A 317 and 60-2 The Rest 123 and 253 England A win by 8 wickets

match with style and some case. Indeed only a fine century by Graham Thorpe, the 20th of his career, forced Nasser Hussain's side to return for their second innings, as chill winds and showers reminded those present that despite Thorpe's sure and balmy offering, it was still April.

The match confirmed little, except that on his day Graham

Thorpe is England's finest batsman. But then his reappointed England captain, Michael Atherton, knew that, so why was the Surrey man asked to play with the hopefuls against the impressively well drilled England A?

One reason could be that Raymond Illingworth feels Thorpe is too complacent with what be achieves, particularly at Test level where be averages 40.93 from 26 Tests. It is an average high enough to denote class, but with only two centuries, Thorpe will have to convert more of his 70s into bundreds to achieve the greatness that is within his grasp.

It is a failing be is well aware of, despite being the only bats-

man to have returned from the World Cup with his reputation intact after a lean tour of South Africa, where his one-day form far exceeded that in Tests.

"There is no doubt that Test cricket is the ultimate," he said, during a long break for rain. "But I don't see any point in barping on about disappointments. I don't think I've got any glaring errors in technique. Perbaps we should give some credit to the bowlers occasionally." Thorpe differs from most

English batsmen in his ability to pull to the boundary deliveries that most batsmen seem happy to tuck in behind and play down for onc. It is an ability that requires phenomenal speed of

eye and hand, and a gift that appears to be bestowed solely on left-handers, like Brian Lara and David Gower.

It certainly makes them harder to bowl at, and Thorpe punished all the seamers. He hit the the normally unflappable Munton for successive fours, a sublime cover drive on the up preceding a rasping pull as the bewildered bowler shortened his length. Mind you, Munton took the final bow, when he pipped Thorpe to the man of the match award. With a fifty and seven wickets to his name, only a Sur-

rey man would have argued. Ed Giddins also took seven wickets in the match as England A's seamers made the ball seam

more often by hitting the pitch harder than the opposition possibly the product of a winter spent toiling away on the grassless surfaces of Pakistan.

To illustrate this dominance. The Rest managed three sets of pairs, including one by the tall left-armer Paul Hutchison. If it was a chaslening first-class debut for the 18-year-old Yorkshireman, he at least bad the satisfaction of knocking back Hussain's off-stump with a corker that left him off the pitch.

When his muscles firm up and he learns to swing it further. he will trouble the best. For the sake of English cricket let us hope some of his team-mates do

itain leave

### Campbell boosts West Indian optimism

reports from Bridgetown,

The West Indies are only a fcw bours away from the emphatic victory in the first Test they need as an instant tonic to their selfconfidence that has taken such a recent battering.

New Zealand, young, inexperienced and weakened by injuries to key players, resume this morning needing 126 to avert an innings defeat with six wickets

remaining against an attack refreshed after the rest day. Their despair is compounded by the groin injury that has reduced their first-innings top

scorer, Adam Parore, to a hobble and will oblige him to use a runner. It bas also put him out of the second, and final, Test

starting in Antigua on Saturday. Even with the win that should be theirs, their captain Courtney Walsh and coach Clive Lloyd, in their first Test together, are realistic enough to put the situation into its proper perspective.

Apart from Parore's injury, all-rounder Chris Cairns and fast bowler Dion Nash were not able to play at all, rendering an already limited New Zealand team as weak as any in international cricket. Even so the West Indies bad to perform on the field. Kenya and others who have embarrassed them in the past year were even weak-

er than the New Zealanders. The assertive triumph that seems assured comes as a relicf. The West Indies can take heart from the maturity of their two

and agent, John Bicourt, But Bi-

court himself was more forth-

youngest batsmen. Sherwin cost him his place during the Campbell, 25. and Shivnarine World Cup. Chanderpaul, 21, set up their comfortable first-innings lead after Brian Lara's early dismissal had increased the pressure.

Messed around by selectors. both came into the Test with their places still not entirely settled. They will be now. Camp-bell's magnificent 208, his first century in Tests let alone double hundred, was the innings of a true opening batsman. The peculiar demands of one-day cricket had unsettled him and

World Cup.
It is difficult to understand

why Keith Arthurton, an inferior left-hander, should have been preferred to Chanderpaul for so long. The eight Tests Chanderpaul missed against Australia and England last year was valuable time wasted. His 82 was his eighth score over 50 in 14 Test innings and the elusive century should not be long in coming.

PIRST TEST (Bridgetown, Burbadon): New Zealand 195 (A C Parore 59, N J Astie 54; J C Adams 5-17) and 154-4 (Astie 82not; West In-des 472; IS LCampbel 208, S Chanderpad 82).

### WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Wigan, the fat cats of Rugby League, have rarely shed away from backing their judgement with hard cash, and their signing of Billy Boston in 1953 was typically sensational. So highly did they rate the Cardiff-born winger, the scorer of a staggering 126 tries in one season for Royal Signals, that they happily paid the 18-year-old phenomenon £3,000 to sign up.

"It was a lot of money," Boston says today. "To put it in perspective, I remember going to the Chailenge Cup final one year when the losers got £7... less tax."

Boston played in six finals, winning three, in a 17-year career, during which his 571 tries put him and on a great-grandchild. second only to Brian Bevan in the all-time scorers' list. "We had a Wigan's home games and never good side, although nothing like misses a Cup final, even when, as successful as the present one. We only trained twice a week and had jobs too."

The son of a West African seaman, Boston was a postal worker being knocked down by a stolen for most of his career. He then car, which left him with a broken spent 14 years with an insulation leg and broken rbs. firm before taking over a hotel, The



Griffin, next to Wigan's Central Park ground, in 1968. He recently retired, handing the reins - and his collected memorabilla - to his daughter, Angela, one of a family of five children, 14 grandchildren

Now 61, Boston still watches as this year, his own team is not taking part. Ha will be at Wembley on Saturday despite the traumatic experiance in February of

### McColgan learns a lesson for Atlanta

Marathon win will increase her chances of winning the Olympic title in Atlanta.

She admitted vesterday that allowing a breakaway group to build up a substantial lead in the first half of Sunday's race could bave cost her victory.

Ecboing the post-race comments of ber new coach, Grete Waitz, she said yesterday: "It's a situation I will never let arise again. The problem was that all the main contenders were in the second group and we were so busy watching one another. We

didn't give the girls who were ahead any credit. They could eas-ily have run on and won the race." McColgan plans three races before the Olympics - possibly starting with a road race in early June and including one over her old distance of 10,000 metres on the track.

The 31-year-old Scot, who put

Liz McColgan believes a lesson an injury-ravaged career back on learned from her London course in the capital, has no plans

Mike Rowbottom assesses the Olympic implications of the London Marathon for a pre-Games visit to Atlanta. "I know it will be bot, humid and hilly - and not particularly fast. But when I run a marathon course I'm so focused it could be anywhere in the world. Because of the type of runner I am, I turn off everything. All I see is a blue

line on the road." McColgan admitted that her first reaction on crossing the line on the The Mall was directed at those who had written her career off. "So many people had doubted me that my feeling was 'I showed you'. My second thought was how good I felt light and bouncy. It was amazing. That's why I am so confident for the Olympics." David Bedford, who puts to-

gether London's élite field, will

try to entice McColgan and

three-times men's winner Dion-

icio Ceron back next year, even

though any Olympic success

would send their appearance fees soaring. Meanwhile, the London Marathon and the British Athlctic Federation will each put £25,000 into a fund aimed at promoting distance running in the United Kingdom. Contributions from national sports funds will

Britain's marathon selectors will meet within the next fortnight to name two other women who will join McColgan in Atlanta. But who will join the pre-selected Richard Nerurkar and Peter Whitehead as Britain's third man remains tantalisingly open.

right, making it clear that the plan was for Evans, a 10,000m finalist at the last Olympics, to try for the same event in Atlanta, thus leaving himself fresh enough to run one of the big commercial marathons in the autumn. bring the total to £100,000.

implications of the London Marathon

"If Paul does the Olympic marathon, he will be wanting to get into the top three." Bicourt said. "What we have to consider is what realistic chance he has of doing that, because who remembers who is fifth, sixth, seventh or eighth in the Olympic Evans, who had earlier said he marathon? The Olympics makes millions, hut it doesn't give anywould not consider running the

thing to the athletes. Paul has got Olympic marathon even if he had a family and a life to lead." won in London, insisted after-At 35 Evans has spent years wards that he would not decide reaching his present commercial his course until discussing the value, and he does not have that weckend's events with his coach

many carning years ahead of him. His is a perfectly reason-able position – but he needs to let the British Athletic Federation know of his intentions soon enough for them to alert other runners if need be. Despite his top-10 finish in

what was only his second marathon, Gary Staines, who suffers from asthma, is wary of committing himself to a marathon in the Atlanta heat and humidity. With the next British finisher on Sunday, Mark Hudspith, back in 18th place on 2:19:25, the way may yet be open for Steve Brace to claim the third spot. His 2:10 run in Houston before Christmas put him firmly into the selectors' minds - but he may, ironically, have lessened his chances by running the Belgrade marathon on Saturday, where he linished eighth in the relatively disap-

pointing time of 2:15:47. Whether Belgium's Vincent Rousseau will change his mind



**Evans: Olympic option** 

about boycotting Atlanta because of the heat remains to be seen, hut it was greatly to his credit that he finished second on Sunday in conditions which he famously hates.

Rousseau's decision to step off the start line at Rotterdam last vear as temperatures rose to 70F was clearly fresh in Bedford's mind before the event got underway. "I stayed out of Vincent's way just in case be was trying to find me." Bedford said with a grin.

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### Retirement at a price for Leconte

JOHN ROBERTS reports from Monte Carlo

Having contributed his share of joie de rivre to Wimbledon. Henri Leconte was keen to play a few shots on the All England Club's lawns for a retirement video. He was told it would cost

£1,000 just for the privilege of walking on to the Centre Court. I almost died laughing." Leconte said. "I couldn't believe it was so expensive. We negotiated and in the end we paid £1,000." The "wc" referred to the French television company who made the video, and Leconte played his shots on an outside court.

Wimbledon confirmed that "an agreement was reached between Henri Leconte and the club", adding that it was the customary facility arrangement for the use of the grounds for filming: "We have no comment on the financial side of this, but

everybody was happy. The 32-year-old Frenchman certainly appeared to see the bumorous side of the affair when relating the story yesterday, after his valedictory season took a stumble in the first round of the Monte Carlo Open.

Leconte came to prominence in the idyllic setting here in 1982 when his victory against Bjorn Borg marked the phenomenal Swede's retirement. Given a wild card this week (a world ranking of No 322 does not open too many doors), the entertaining left-hander did his best

American football

Bohhy Hammond was dis-

missed as head coach of the

London Monarchs yesterday,

less than 48 hours after the

Monarchs' worst-ever defeat, a

37-3 humbling in Frankfurt on

Taylor, the team's offensive co-

ordinator. Explaining the deci-

sion, Gareth Moores, London's

has given his all for the team.

but we felt a fresh face and new

Hammond's tenure has not

been a happy one. Last year, in

his first season in charge, the

Monarchs achieved just four

wins from 10 games, amid ru-

mours that the former New

York Giants running back and

his players did not always see

eye to eye. Indeed, following the

first game this season, an over-

time defeat by the Scottish

Claymores, three players were

released as Hammond sought to

assert his authority.

direction were needed.

NICK HALLING

Saturday night. He will be ren

fore heing worn down by the Czech David Rikl, 6-2, 6-7, 6-1. Undismayed, Leconte looks

lorward in a farewell party at the French Open in June, where he was runner-up to Mats Wilander at Roland Garros in 1988. And Wimbledon? Leconte

gave an exaggerated shrug and said it had been indicated that there would be no wild card to mark the 10th anniversary of his appearance in the semi-finals. "It is not easy to play at Wim-bledon," he smiled. "I have played there 13 times, but now

I have to pay." Stefan Edberg is also in the throes of his farewell year, but the twice Wimbledon champion will have no trouble passing through the All England Club's gates. Although Edberg's ranking has slipped to No 52 it is still healthy enough for direct entry to the Grand Slams.

Yesterday, the 30-year-old Swede showed that he can still deal with challenges from younger players, even those who make most of their points on slow clay surfaces such as the one here. He defeated Alex

Corretja, of Spain, 7-6, 6-3, Mark Philippoussis and Gilbert Schaller have something in common - both have eliminated Pete Sampras, the world champion, in a Grand Slam championship. Schaller caused the upset on the clay of the French Open, Philippoussis on a home concrete court at the Australian Open.

Although the Austrian might have appeared the slight favourite when the pair met yesterday, he was unable to subdue to please in a swirling wind he- the 19-year-old Philippoussis,

The final straw may have

been the treatment afforded

William "Refrigerator" Perry

on Salurday. Perty was on the

field for just a handful of plays

as the Frankfurt Galaxy pushed

the Monarchs around at will. He

is clearly not in perfect physical

shape, but remains an effective

run-stopper at this level. Perry

Hammond's and it defied logic.

tials for the joh: a former wide

cos and Houston Oders, he

earned two Super Bowl rings as

an assistant coach with the

Pittsburgh Steelers. He also

has experience as a head coach,

having been in charge of Texas

Southern University for five

years in the 1980s. He takes over

in time for Saturday's visit to

Düsseldnrf, where the Mon-

archs will play the Rhein Fire.

native has already promised

more playing time for Perty and

believes that, despite their poor

start, the Monarchs can still

compete for a World Bowl berth.

The 59-year-old Kansas City

Taylor possesses the creden-

was not injured: the decision to

Hammond sacked

general manager, said: "Bobby receiver with the Denver Bron-

who recovered from 3-0 down in the final set to win 2-6, 7-6. 7-6. It will be interesting to see

how the big-serving Australian fares in the second round against Andrei Medvedev, the 21-year-old Ukrainian who won the title in 1994. Medvedev believes his form is beginning to pick up again, partly because of the work he has done with Boh Brett, the Australian who guided Goran Ivanisevie to two Wimbledon finals, and also because an operation has cleared

Since then I have not had one cold for six months in a row, which is really unusual for me," Medvedev said, after inflicting a 6-4, 6-4 defeat upon Alberto Berasategui, the 1994 French Open finalist.

Medvedev could hardly contain his feeling of wellbeing, "I don't have any temperature, and I don't feel that I cannot get up from the bed in the morning because I have such a hig hradache. Now it's great."

Petr Korda, who demonstrated his clay-court potential by advancing to the French Open final in 1992, moved too smartly on the surface for Todd Martin and defeated the American, 6-4, 6-3.

The top seed, Thomas Muster, practised with Jim Courier, the No 8 seed, yesterday. At the same time, Andre Agassi, the second seed, worked on an adjacent court. The interest this created caused spectators to turn their backs on a match between Jordi Burillo, of Spain, and Hernan Gumy, of Argentina. For the record, Gumy won, 6-3, 6-3.



Shouting match: Henri Leconte on his way to defeat yesterday

Photograph: Reuter

### **Biela set for** reinstatement after appeal

**Motor racing** 

Frank Biela is set to regain his ead in the British Touring Car Championship when Audi present new evidence against their exclusion from Sunday's fourth round at Brands Hatch, writes Gwyn Dolphin. The suspension on the German driver's car was declared to be illegal after a protest from Vauxhall.

Audi have requested written confirmation from the FIA, the sport's international governing body, that the team was allowed to make the modifications. Their appeal will be heard next week, and if successful, Biela will have the 39 points he was docked reinstated.

The issue has cast doubt over the way the FIA overrides national sporting bodies and gives verbal approval to teams to make changes in a series which is based on the principle that the cars must remain close to standard specification.

### Euro 96 fear for McLaren

Football

PHIL SHAW reports from Copenhagen

Alan McLaren, one of Scotland's first-choice defenders, may miss this summer's European Championship. Arriving in Copen-hagen for tomorrow's friendly against Denmark, the Scotland manager. Craig Brown, said that the Rangers player, who is due to have knee surgery on 20 May, has noty a 70 per cent chance of being fit for the finals.

Brown expects to use 16 of his 17 remaining players against the European champions in the Parken Stadium. Jim Leighton and Andy Goram will each play a balf in goal, with only the third keeper, Bryan Gunn, in-active. Meanwhile, Aberdeen's Scott Booth, hailed by Brown as the team's principal striker dur-ing qualifying, has suffered a setback to his hopes of making the squad for Euro 96. A fresh injury, to his groin, means that Booth drops down to the bench for tonight's B international at Nykoching Falster. The Wales manager, Bobby

Gould, has agreed to play hall with Ian Rush, even though it could damage the start of their World Cup qualifying campaign. Rush has asked not to be considered for the opening tie in San Marino in June, while be tries to find himself a new club. That request, which Gould

has granted, fuels speculation that the pair have fallen out and that the 34-year-old striker, who has won a free transfer from Liverpool at the end of the season, is no longer interested in playing for bis country. "It's a common-sense deci-

sion for me to go along with it. There is no animosity between us, "said Gould, as he prepared for commerce's friendly against Switzerland in Lugano. Mark Hughes, Neville Southall, Ryan Giggs and Dean Saunders are also missing. Winning their first caps are Birmingham's Andy Legg and Tranmerc goalkeeper Danny Coyne. Vinnie Jones is recalled after suspension.

Manchester City's central defender Alan Kernaghan received a late call-up to the Republic of Ireland squad for their friendly against the Czech Republic. Mick McCarthy, whose party had already been severely depleted by injuries, drafted in Kernaghan after Portsmouth's Alan McLoughlin failed to recover from a hip injury. The Leicester midfielder Neil

Lennon has been forced to pull out of Northern Ireland's friendly against Sweden in Belfast because of a groin strain, hut manager Bryan Hamilton has called up St Johnstone's 18year-old defender Danny Griffin after failing to recruit Swindon's Kevin Horlock because of his club commitments. West Ham's Michael Hughes is also doubtful for the match. He has not yet made the trip to Belfast as he is about to become a father for the first time.

### Suspension ends Flitcroft's season

other ball in the Premiership this season. Blackburn's new £3m midfielder - sent off within four minutes of his debut against Everton last month -- has been handed a further onematch suspension as a result of poor disciplinary record.

Flitcroft was summoned hefore the Football Association after collecting 12 bookings this season. He has recently served two games of a three-match ban and the extra ga will now miss Blackhurn's final match of the season at Chelsea. The former England Under-21 player has also been fined £750.

Flitcroft's team-mate Colin Hendry is proving a wanted man, with Benfica joining Torino in attempting to lure the 30year-old centre-half from Ewood Park. Rovers have responded by offering the Scottish international a four-year contract which will put him on a par with the club's top earners.

Brighton face a 31-day deadline to satisfy the Foothall League of their future plans - or face possible expulsion. The club will be relegated to the Third Division if they lose at Notts County unnight and are now deeply

One-day match

YORKISHIPE
M P Vaughen b Green
C White b Green
B Base c & b Green
B Base c & b Green
B Base c & b Green
C Byse c

Giddine. Boulding: Lewry 5-1-18-1: Hutchson 5.1-0-39-1; Thorpe 1-0-1-0 Umphres: J H Hampshire and N T Plews.

Lancashire v Yorkshire OLD TRUFFORD: Leacashire with by six wickets. Yorkshire won boss.

Part 1-33, 2-42, 3-52, 4-60, 5-61, 6-67, 7-104, 8-112, 9-112.

Booting Eventry 10-0-38-1; Austin 9.5-1-31-1; Green 10-1-22-4; Yales 9-3-8-0; Trichard 7-0-29-3; Lloyd 3-1-7-1

Fall: 1-22, 2-23, 3-17, 4-101. Did not bot: "!" A America: WWA Hegg, A Fartoff,

Did not hat: "I." A Attertion, the minogeneous and the I. O Austra, P. J. Gasen, P. J. Gasen, P. J. Gasen, S. S. 12-0; What A-D-11-1; Fister 10-0-17-2; White 5-0-20-0; Harmiting D. S. 1-27-0. Unspirest of I Burgets and R Permer.

SECOND SI CHAMPIONSHIP (first day of three, today 11.0); Canterbury: Larcasyn 231-coc; 9; Chroson 15; V Wood 140; Rent 220, Knowle and Domidge; Cebratin 291 3 7 1 4 0 Games; 145; 6, V 3 V 6, 13.

Workers I. P. | Second day of three, today 12.0p. Taustion: Notice that the part of the pa

Garry Flitcroft will not kick an- embroiled in an even more important survival battle.

The League will not approve a proposed ground-share scheme at Portsmouth next season until Brighton submit plans for a new stadium near the Goldstone Ground, their 93-year base which was sold to help clear £6m debts. A League spokesman, Chris

Hull, said: "They have known of our requirements for a year, hu we are still waiting for detailed plans of a future home. The Football League will not be ma noeuvred into a corner under pressure. Unless Brighton address all the issues before 24 May, the future will look very cleak for the club, who are aware of the options available to us."

George Weah, the Liberian boro World Foothaller of the Year, has extended his contract with Milan to June 1999. The Cup-Winners' Cup fi-

nalists, Paris St-Germain and Rapid Vienna, also had good news on the striking front yesterday. The Brazilian forward Rai signed a new three-year contract with PSG, while Rapid's German striker Carsten Jancker, whose six goals helped the Austrian club reach the final, has also agreed a new deal.

### **Britain leave Giles behind**

Calum Giles, Britain's penalty corner specialist, is not included in the squad selected for the Six Nations Sultan Azlan Shah Cup in Ipoh at the beginning of next month, writes Bill Colwill. Because four of the teams in

the tournament - the hosts Malaysia, Australia, Netherlands and South Korea - are in the same pool as Britain in the Olympics, their coach, David Whitaker, said: "We're keeping our main powder keg - Calum Giles - under wraps for the time being". Giles has not been so suc-

cessful in recent games, although he has scored several very important goals, and it may be the coach's way of sending him a warning message. But cor-ner striking is a team effort -pusher-out, stopper and striker - and the service from the first two has not been too good lately. It seems surprising that the opportunity to practise in match conditions against the top defences is not heing taken. The hamstring injury to Si-

mon Hazlitt gives Phü McGuire, out of international hockey because of a back injury since the European Cup, the opportunity to stake a late claim for an Olympic place which, before injury and the arrival of Jon Wyatt to partner Julian Halls at the back, had looked fairly likely. McGuire would now seem to be competing with Soma Singh for the cover defender role.

Assuming Giles does return, Danny Hall and Howard Hoskin, not with the squad recently returned from Atlanta, will be vying for the 16th Olympic place. With Britain still finding it dif-

ficult to convert chances it is a little surprising Jason Lee has not been given another chance. The Old Loughtonian has a knack of scoring important goals. Another to be overlooked is the National League's top goalscorer, Cannock's Bobby Crutchley,

•	CUITERITY PLAYING III MILIAN. CREST BRIDGE SQUAD (Sk. Nations Sultan Atlen
	Sheh Cup, both, Malayeta, 4-12 Mayl: S Ma-
l	ates, J Wyold, H Housein (Peeding), D Lucius (Past
•	Gristeed), J. Halle, N. Thompson (Old Loughts), C. Minger, Kalbir Takher (Carnock), J. Laelett (capt).
	P Molitaire (Teddington). & Forebatta, R Thompson (Hourston), R Garcia (Foto Bercelors), I Shaw,
	South Singh (Southgate), D Half (Guildord).

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	Football
	7.30 unless stated
	a INTERNATIONAL
	Denmark v Scotland (6.30)
	(at Idraetspark, Nykobing Falster)
	UNDER-21 ENTERNATIONAL
	England v Croetis (7.45)
	iat Roker Park, Sunderlandi ENDSLEIGH LEAGUE FIRST DRASION
	Port Vale v Letter (7.45)
	Watford v Grimsby (7.45)
	SECOND DEGRECON
	Burnley V Bristol Rovers
	Carlisla v York
	Chesterfield v Swindon
	Notes County v Brighton (7.45)
	Oxford Util v Shrewsbury (7.45)
	Rotherham v Stockport
	Waleall v Hed City (7.45)
3	THIRD DIVISION Chester v Northerspton
	Unanted to Proffeeting
	Massield v Torquiy (7.45)
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	SCURRINGER V DOCCUSTOR
	Altrinchast v Stalybridge (7.45)
	Runcorn y Northwich (7.45)
	(Matthews - Maximulas) (7 45)
	I EEEA PRINCES-19 COMMENSATO INTERNACIONO
	round: Fodiand o Scytland (at HUSS) Park, 1994.
	WINSTONE, FLEX HEALT LENGUE FLEX DIVENOC
	Chathern v Greenerch; Herne Bay v Whitstable;
	Shappey v Countrian

natickley, Marthy v Armstorbe.
NORTH WEST COUNTES EXHIBITE Flest Divisions.
Florin v Burnough Not-grove v Catheros.
JEWISON LEAGUE Premier Divisions Floring to Burnough Not-grove v Catheros.
JEWISON LEAGUE Premier Divisions Floring to Suthury, Naumarket v Harvich & Parkestory, Waston v Feberhamt, Wisbech v Comand, Wirodians v Great Yarmouth.
State LEAGUE First Divisions Burney V Liberties Counter Counte

DO V PROFIDENT MANUAL PROPRIES DIVISIONS BYS-DAY TOWN. S. LEAGUE PROBRED DIVISION. BYS-SEALER HOMES LEAGUE Mildred Division. Ex-sers which town Moor Green v Consultant Hand-ley Town v Solinul Bornught Lebester United v R C Wenvick: Surron Conflict v Duciny Town, Rich-well v Namentary, Tamworth v Burningsam Town. Southern Division: Condentary v Forest Green. SMOOKER: Embassy World Chemponstro

San Diego .......11 \$20 Francisco .. 10 & .. 556 Los Angeles ...... 8 11 .421 Basketball INTERIOR CONTROL IN THE CONTROL IN T FASTERSI CONFERENCE Atlantic Divisios W L PCT ...60 22 ,732 

### Rugby League adds four players to the other former New Zealand Test half-15 who were on duty at Wigan. back, Dean Clark, as their sec-DAVE HADFIELD ond new overseas signing. Clark, The Fijian back Carlos Hassan, aged 28, made seven appearances and the forwards Jason Donofor his country between 1989 and 1992, and played hriefly for the hue, Jon Hamer and Simon Bernard Dwyer is winning his fight to be fit to face his old St Knox complete a 19-man squad. Scarborough Pirates before two

Dwyer recovering well

Helens team-mates at Wembley on Saturday. The Bradford Bulls forward

feared that he would miss the

ter injuring his right elbow at Wigan last Friday. "But he trained today and came through exceptionally well," the Bradford coach, Brian Smith, said. "It's very sur-

prising because I thought he was in a lot of trouble. But I think you'd have to hit Bernard with a crowbar to get him not to play." Dwyer, who is now the favourite to play blind-side prop at Wembley, shares Smith's sense of relief. "It was a bit wor-

rying at the time, but our physio was more worried than me. The X-ray has shown no serious damage and I won't have any trouble playing," he said. With James Lowes and Steve McNamara cup-tied, Smith

6 .647

7 .533

10 .444

12 .400

15 .16T

Ø .625

9 .471

a .684

...13 4 .765

\_7 10 .412

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412

242

3

Baseball

and ....,..10

Seattle .....13

Chicago ......10

Kansas City \_\_\_\_.5 13 .278

United the Control of the Control of

Central Divis

.....8 10 .444

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Homston ......... 9 8 500

Washington ..... 39 43 .475

Soston 33 49 A02

New Jersey .....30 . 52 .366

Philadelphia.....15 64 223

Eastern Division

....11 7 .611

a .526

9 471

11 .421

11 .313

a .579

7 .511

2<sup>1</sup>2

140

21

27

30

42

Smith will reduce that to the requirite 17 on Thursday, the day after St Helens are due to name their Wembley line-up.

is to join the Super League's Workington back-markers, Town. Smith, an experienced half-back, played with Illawarra and St George in the Winfield Cup and was to take up a coaching role with the ill-fated Super League club in Adelaide.

Workington, still without a point this season, have also signed the former Parramatta forward Brad Nairn, but they face possible legal action from two members of the Tongan World Cup squad who say that the club has reneged on their contracts. Peri Amato and Taukolo Tonga claim that they have signed deals with the club and that nobody has been in touch with them.

Leeds have confirmed the

....72 10 878

.....46 36 .561

WESTERN CONFERENCE

-585

\*Indiana .....52 30 .634

Charlotte ...........41 41 .500

MBwaukee .......2S 57 .305

y San Antonio ..59 23 .720

\* Utab ......55 27 .671

Minnesota ......26 58 .317

Dellas ......26 56 .317

Vancouver .......15 67 .183

z Seattle .......64 18 .780

\* LA Lakers .....53 29 .646

Golden State ....36 46 .439

LA Cappers .....29 53 .354

oto .39 43 .476

\* Clinched play-off place; y Clinched Division tide; ¿ Clinched conference tide.

Pakistan's first captain, Abdul Hafeez Kardar, died of a heart attack yester-day in his home town of Lahore. Kar-dar, who captained Pakistan in Test cricket from 1952 to 1958, was 71.

Houston ......48

\* Portland \_\_\_\_.44

Cricket

Fencing

Derrer......35 47

4Detroit

SPORTING DIGEST

seasons with Hull KR. He is expected to make his debut against the London Broncos oo 5 May. Leeus nave dettei their first new arrival, Nathan Picchi, whose dislocated shoulder is now thought to be not as serious as first feared. The Hawkes Bay forward, who was injured in bis first appearance

on Sunday, may not need an operation and could be back in weeks rather than months. Sheffield Eagles are expected to announce a major overseas signing today, to boost a squad which has won three of its first five Super League games hut

lost at Leeds on its last outing. Wigan and Bath are joining forces to persuade the RFU to scrap the plan to reduce Twickenham's capacity for the crosscode meeting between the two clubs on 25 May.

hami, Brown (Mon Cityl, Briscoe (Sheff Wed), O'Connor (Everton), Rufus (Charlton), Thatch-er (Miheal), Cooke (Mon Utti), Ford (Leebs), Safien (OPR), Dyer (Crystal Palace), Holfand Newcastley, Substitutes: Moore (Transces), Devis (Luton), Plumaner (OPR), Carbon (Der-by), Hondrie (Aston Villa).

FIRST DIVISION
Walesfield (15) 26, Salford (20) 32, Walesfield:
Tides Fixel 3, Alier, Copesaler, Goels Daves 3, Salford: Tries Forber 2, Edwards, Martin, McAucy,
Rogers; Goels Blateldy 4, 73,010)

Skiing .

75 69. 287 0 Frost (SA) 71 71 70 75. PGA SEMIORS CHAMPONSHEP (Palm Beach, Florida) Lending final acores: (US unless stated); 280 H Invite 65 74 69 71. 282 I Aoki 69 71 71 71 71. 284 V Fernande: 68 76 77 73. 287 C C Rodriguez 71 73 71 72; 2 Bannes (GB) 72 71 69 75; 3 Alin 72 67 75 73. 286 3 Murphy 74 72 74 69; TWeishopf 72 74 72 70; J Schroeder 69 75 71 73; L Gibbert 67 74 74 73, 296 T Horron (GB) 75 77 72 74. two top international ski officials charged

Britain's Laura Davies had a disappositing final round of 79 to finish well down the field on 220 at the Chick-fil-A Chardy Champlonship in Stockbridge, Georgia. American Barb Mucha won by two shots on 208. Buo Shots on 208.

LEADING SONY RANGUNGS: 1 G Norman (Aus.) 13.59bts av. 2 C Montgomere (Sco) 10.211 3 N Proc (Zimi 9.88; 4 E Bi (SA) 9.35; 5 C Pavin (LSS 8.86; 6 N Faido (Fig) 8.85; 7 £ Larger (Ser) 8.65; 3 F Couptes (US) 8.45; 9 M Cohi (Jap) 7.06; 10 S Elimpson (Aus. 6.94; 1.1 Leturan (US) 6.76; 12 P Michelson (US) 6.94; 1.1 Leturan (US) 6.76; 12 P Michelson (US) 5.91; 12 S Horb (US) 5.89; 1.5 V Singh (Fig) 5.78; 18 M O'Meará (US) 5.23; 17 U Love IF (US) 5.13; 12 S Torrance (Sco) 5.05; 19 L Janzen (US) 5.00; 20 M McCumber (US) 4.95.

PSWCH CIP (Northgate Sports Centre, Ip-swich): British Round Wassen's Epoé World Cup: 10 Jernskyna (Est); 2 G Buele (Swr); 2 M Vosu (Est); H Row (Est); 5 C Botel (Ger); 6 I Chappe (Sp); R Casilego (Sp); 8 S Corner-ti (I). Best British: 0 Camboole. ice hockey 1). Western Conference first round: Wirrapeg 4 Detnot 1 (Detnot lead best of-sour series 2-1): Chacago 7 Calgary S (Chicago lead best of-series and the series 2-1). WORLD CHAMPTONISHES (Vienna): Pool A: Russe 2 Germany 1; Canada 3 Shockes 3, Pool B: Capch Rep 3 Sweden 1: Firland 1 Norway 1.

BUS MAJOR LEAGUE: Colorado Rapids 3 Dallas Burn 1; Kensas City Wiz 3 San Jose Clash 2. INTERNATIONAL Asuncion, Pari: Paraguay 3 Boste O. Cup Qualifythis MATCH (lingston, Jam): Caribbean none second round, second leg: James: 1 Surinem 0 (agg 2-0).

DANISH SUPPR LEAGUE: Asriva: 1 hast 1; Nassad 0 Burdy 1; Lyngy 1 Veje 1; Copenages 2 Herbeige 1; Subston 1 Oderse 1: Viborg 0 Aziborg 2.

NORN/EGBM LEAGUE: Stremsgodset 1 LSK 3; Kil. 1 Skeut 2; Bodoe-Girm 3 Start 3; Mothe a Moss 0; Stathsah 1 Wiong 1; Vasteringa 0 Barn 2. Brann 2. SWEDISH LEAGUE: IK 1 Degenors 1: Oxforoki

Motor racing Mintor racing
Altro (RADER RAC YOURNIS CAR CHAMPIONSHIP (Brands Hartch) Romand three (38
lape; 45.60 milee): 1 F Breis (Gerl Aud Al
20mn 51.24sec (ave speed 91.92mph); 2 A
Mariu (Son) Remark (Lagana +0.25aec; 3 )
Winherhock (Gerl BHW 320) +0.97; 4 R Rycell (Swel Yoko 850 +4.48; 5 P Radestin (Al)
Ford Mondeo +17.94; 8 R Ravagis (10 BHW
320 +18.19; 7 J Celend (GB) Vauvhall Vectra +18.50. Fastest lap: Menu and Rydeli
46.42sec (ave speed 93.24mph; truck record).
Round foer (38 lope; 48.50 miles): 1,
Winkelhock 29:43.61 (ave speed 92.31mph);
2 Menu +4.19; 3 Rydeli +1.1.46; 4 J Smcliffe (GB) Aud Al +15.41; 5 Ravagis
+15.12. Fastest lap: Winkelhock 45.31sec
(are speed 93.56mph; track record). Champlomathip standings: Driveris: 1 Meru 35pts;
2 w Winkelhock and Rydeli, 29; 4 W Hoy (GB) SWEDNSH LEAGUE: N. 1. Degerfors 1; Oddwold 3 Treleborg 0; Hebergootg 2 Coter 0; Norskoperg 0 Umes 1; Hebristad 1 Quegarden 0; One-bo 0 Orgyte 1; FK Gotherburg 0 Maimo 0. SCUTLAND 8 TEAM (v Demmark 8 at Nykobing Falster tonlight; Wallier (Particl.), McNamara (Cette: Martin (Mothervell), Otheli (Cette), Wayte (Anddesbrough), Norsin (Teammer), Leas (Coverny), Lambert (Mothervell), Glass (Aberteen), Danie (Fangers), McGinlay (Soffon), Substitutes to be smoonred.
ENGLAND (RIDER-2), TEAM (v Crostin et Roker Park, Sunderland tonight): Day (forten

Henault Laguna 24; 5 Brachtfe 21; 6 Ravagia 19; 7 Bete 16, Manufacturers: 1 Remault 48; 2 Volvo 38; 8 Bahw 37; 4 Vaushell 27; 5 Auch 23, Totali Gupt 1 R Kaye (GB) Youthal Cova-ber 55; 2 L Brookes (GB) Toyota Canno E 36.

Rugby league SURDAYS LATE RESULTS: STONES SUPER LEAGUE Halifax (8) 28, St Holens (18) 30. Halifax: This Schuster 2, Balbarn, Perett, Goale: Schus-er 6.58 Helenst Triest Nestone 3, Ampli, Ham-mond, Goale: Goulding 5, (6,250) FIRST ORNSON

Rogers: Goale Blazeley 4. (3.010)
SECOND DINYSION
South Wales (8) 12, Domester (16) 22.
South Wales: Thice Alvs, Marylail. South Rees
2, Domester Trice Cout. Gouldborne, Green,
Pistoley, South Chappel 3. (558)
Switchen (14) 38, Barrow (9) 10. Swinton: Tries
Britert, Carnon, Riey, Rosch, Sheels, Weldby,
Goale Peace 6. Barrow-Tries Ajdrson, McCorey,
Boele Alkinson, (1,378)

in the death of the Austrian skiler Ulnike Majer said at their thai yesterday that her customized skis were to blame for the crash that broke her neck. Kurt Hoch, race director for the international federation, the RIS, and his assistant, Jan Tischhauser, are charged with manslaughter through negligence in the death of Maler, who broke her neck in a 65mph crash during a World Cup downhill race in Garmsch-Partenkinchen, Germany in January 1994. Snooker

EMEASSY WORLD CHAMPYONESEP (Sharrink) Phat round: Gwitonson (Eng) bt 0 Roe (Eng 10-9: R Lawler (Eng) bt 1 Penrot (Eng) 10-6: R Lawler (Eng) bt 1 Penrot (Eng) 10-6.

ALISTRALIAN OLYMPIC TEAM TRIALS (Syd Men's 400m individual medicy (first piece Men's 400m individual medley (first place qualities for Olympics): 1.M Durn 4:17.65; 21 Seed 4:20.40; 8 S Combs 4:23.47; Westerin 200m freestyle (tip piro quality for Olympics): 1.J Grevide 2:01.05; 2 S O'Neil 2:01.06; 2 A Window 7:02.89. 1.00m benestyles (tip piro quality for Olympics): 1.H Derman 1:09.62; 2

PEDICIP (Hyant in Manga Cata, Sp) Europe-Aldica zone group one, Pool A, selectivel: Belanus bit Grant Britain 2-1. IS South (Essec) to T (granese 5-2 6-3; C Wood (Busset) inst to N Ziersen 7-6 4-6 6-3; Wood and V Lafe (Descri) inst to Zierse ve and ignature 7-5 7-5. Russis bit Slovens 3-0. ve and ignature 7-5 7-6. Russia in Slovene 3-0. MONTE CARLO OPEN Men's singles, first round: A Moderdov (lur) by A Bersstragon (So) 6-4 6-4; I Novisk (\$2 Reo) by I Bjothmen (Swe) 2-6 7-5 6-3; I Stemensk (Nebb) by A Bersstraen (Swe) 2-6 7-5 6-3; I Stemensk (Nebb) by A Rodrigor (Ger) 6-3 6-2; R Furlon (III) by O Vacek, ICz Reo) 6-4 7-6; S Schaller (Nebr) by F Fredrigs. son (Swe) 8-3 7-5; M Philippouses (Just) by G Schaller (Ger) 2-6 7-6; A Boetsch (Fr) by M Goeliner (Ger) 2-6 7-6; A Boetsch (Fr) by M Goeliner (Ger) 2-6 7-6; F Marrotile (Sp) 1-6 Nargeo (Ity) 3-6 6-0 6-2; F Marrotile (Sp) 1-6 1-3; E Edberg (Swe) by A Comercy (Sp) 6-6.3; M Guszafsson (Swe) by O by Barcher (Sp) 7-6 6-3; M Guszafsson (Swe) by O Martner; (Sp) 6-4 6-2; Bernatura (Swe) 5-6 6-3; M Guszafsson (Swe) by O Martner; (Sp) 6-4 6-2; Bernatura (Swe) Sp) son (swe) at 0 Martinez (Sp) 6-4 6-2.

BERBIUDA OPEN (Paget, Bermanda): Mon's singles frank M Wastangan (US) at M Fapors along 6-7 6-4 7-5. Doubles filmak J Apel (Sae) and A Haygarin ISAI by P Cash and P Rafter (Ausi 3-6 6-1 6-3.

### CRICKET SCOREBOARD

**Totley Shield** First-class match **England A v The Res** Cambridge University v Derbyshire FERNER'S: Match drawn. Cambridge University won loss. DEREYSHIRE - First traings 28T for 4 dec. (T A Twedts 89no, O M Jones 71, C J Adams 53).

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY - First lennings 329 for 7 dec (W J House 136, R Q Cake 102no, E T Smith 54). Wetderson c & b Immi
G Chappie c Rollins b Immi
R K Begavart b Kengtra b Marton
P M Hatchton Bu b Godders
J O Lawry c Immr b Godders
Extree (p.13, [b7, no6]

Fall (portis 2:269.
Did not but K J Bernett, "D M Jones, "T A Tweats, C M Wels, A E Warner, 0 € Malcolm.
Bowling: Moffat 20-3-82-0; Janset 17-3-72-0; Jones 10-4-44-0; Whitail 20-4-60-0; House 6-0-36-0; Dealon 8-0-26-1. "N Husself o Milchagor" 1.3
JC Pooley not or. 0.0
Extrae (6:2) 2
Total (for 2, 11.1 overs) 80
Felt: 1-15, 2-58.
Did not bate: 0 P Ostler, R C Irane, †R J Rollins, 1 O K Satisbury, T A Munton, R O Stemp, E S H

No play yesterday THE PARKS: Middlesex 197 for S (M W Gatung 63) v Oxford University. Today 11.30.

> TODAY'S NUMBER

The home games Benfica have lost in the Portuguese League this season. The first reverse in Lisbon for the second-placed club came on Sunday when a goal in the last minute gave Farense sixth from bottom of the 18strong division -- a 1-0 win.



# Sky TV deal could get RFU off the hook

Rugby Union STEVE BALE

The internecine and international strife that is tearing English and British rugby asunder may be resolved by a rescue made by an unlikely saviour: BSkyB, whose vast offer for the broadcasting rights to English rugby sent the Rugby Football Union in its independent direct-

ion in the first place. Today the RFU intends, almost as an act of despair, to the Irish attitude, enunciated by meetings with English Profes-

state its case for separate English, Welsh, Scottish and Irish television deals when the present contract with the BBC expires next year. The uther home unions are so unconvinced by what they see as the patronising English attitude that they are threatening to eject England from the Five Nations' Championship and make next year's Lions tour of South África without them but possibly with the French.

Syd Millar, president of the IRFU, shows. "We're not beating about the bush on this one." sional Rugby Union Clubs are planned, and in the meantime from the present entreuched positions. The only losers would. We can't afford not to have our share." These ostensibly mild remarks should be taken in the context that Ireland have, for a quarter of a century, been England's closest rugby allies.
The RFU has effectively put

its internal dispute with its leading clubs over the control and fi-. nancing of professional rugby in England on hold while it deals These are no idle threats, as with the television question. No

nounced a cup and league boycott, is getting on with planning its autonomous 1996-97 season.

But if the RFU was able to

finalise an agreement for the reported £150m-plus with Sky - which would inevitably involve the sharing of live coverage of Twickenham internationals with a terrestrial station - it could then pass enough funds the way of the clubs comfortably to cover the costs of professionof course, be the punters.

The next part is even trickier, but if Sky - as is now being sug-gested - agree big-money indi-vidual contracts with each of the other home unions, then everyone is suddenly off the hook. Short of a straight RFU backdown, there does not appear to be any other obvious solution to either of its disputes.

While the RFU's "foot is off the pedal", as one club official

put it. Epruc claims its plans are virtually complete. The RFU's assertion, that no hroadcaster will speak to anyone but it, is patent nonsense and, unless the logic of the Sky scenario is

followed, at some as-yet inde-terminate stage Epruc will sim-ply declare its independence. We are going to go on with our strategy and wheo that starts to come to fruition there will be a remarkable sense of urgency oo the part of the union," Donald Kerr, the Epruc chairman, said yesterday. We

and, after a bit of fine-tuning, we will be happy to publish these."

As things stand, no meetings between the clubs and the union are planned. Yet various of the antagonists - Peter Wheeler and Kerr of the clubs, and Cliff Brittle, Bill Bishop and Tony Hal-lett of the RFU - sat within a dozen feet of each other at Sunday's Sanyo Cup match at Twickenham, Hallett and Wheeler in adjacent seats. Brittle, the RFU chairman, has agreed to meet

have fixture lists worked out in representatives of the Rugby detail for all our competitions Union Players' Association tomorrow, Rupa has also requested a meeting with Kerr.

Meanwhile, the third of the

RFU's disputes - with Bath and Wigan over the restriction in Twickenham's capacity for the inter-code match on 25 May is no nearer settlement. Yesterday's scheduled meeting between the police, the clubs and the union failed to materialise and it is now due to be held to-

Alan Watkins, page 24

### Gascoigne votes for Venables

Football

**GLENN MOORE** 

"About Paul Gascoigne... started the inquiry. "Oh, no," in-terjected Terry Venables. "what's he done now?"

Gascoigne had, in fact, added his distinctive accent to the chorus of voices begging the England coach to reconsider his resignation. The request left Venables both exasperated and tuuched in public, and probably quictly pleased in private.

"I was gutted when I heard he was going to resign," Gascoigne had said, resorting, under encouragement, to tabloid-speak, "It will be a tragedy for English football if

Gascoigne was speaking after another imaginative Venables coaching session at Bisbam Abbey, where England are preparing for tomorrow night's friendly with Croatia.

It would, of course, be a much bigger story if Gascoigne had said: "It was a great relief when he resigned. I just wish he had gone immediately." Having been signed by Venables as a 21year-old, and nurtured - tu the point of favouritism - during Venables stewardship of England, Gascoigne is hardly an in-

dependent witness. He is, however, a man with little time for double-speak and political games. What you see is what you get and, when Gascoigne says it would "give the squad a significant lift" if Venables could be persuaded to stay vou are inclined to believe him.

"The public are behind him, the players are, even the media

seem to be behind him. What he needs now is the full backing of the Football Association. I hope they can come to terms with him. I don't know why they aren't behind him. If we don't snap bim up someone will.

"The players bave great respect for him. I've bad a few managers, I've been abroad. He's different class. He has different ideas, he knows what he's talking about and knows how football should be played.

When he is talking all the lads are concentrating and listening, even Bryan Robson, even Don Howe, with his experience. When the gaffer speaks at meetings and he says, 'Anything to say, Don'.', Don says 'you've said it all', which is a compliment from Don to the

"He is hringing in 17-year-olds to join in training – we nev-er had that cbance. They are going to feel on top of the world when they go back to club level. He has brought in Bryan to give him experience, and Don. Even if he wasn't selecting me I would feel he was the best.

"We all bope it won't happen, that the FA will say, 'We want you, here's a five-year contract'. He should be there for the next 10 years. It must be nice for an FA guy to sit at Wembley and hear the crowd cheering Terry's name and think, 'we have a winner bere'.

"It would be hrilliant if they could get him to change his mind, it would be the icing on the cake for the European Championships."

Venables constantly says he lation, then appears to drop very



Paul Gascoigne shows his support for the England manager, Terry Venables, at Bisham Abbey yesterday

gentle hints - like a knowing smile during a recent Sky in-terview - which suggest be could be persuaded to change his mind.

Yesterday, io response to Gascoigne's comments, be said: "It is very nice of him to say that. has had enough of the specu- I did not know the players felt as strongly as that. But we've

Calm and settle with intro-

poem (6) There's much about vase to

produce excitement (4.2)

Knows, say, the body will take in data from this (5.5)

But prank misfires leaving

one without money (8) Woman is a beautiful Italian

Silly attempt to take marine

a smaller quantity (8) Planes go fast at bottom of

outside broadcast pictures?

Have obligation in Herts.

duction of conservative

This is not strictly true. The situation is as much Venables' creation as the FA's. He is, as Gascoigne reflected, 'his own man'. The ostensible reason for his resignation, the series of autumn court cases, are still in

gone through all this before. It's out of my bands and I can't see any way round it." the way. The other reason, the lack of backing from certain members of the FA, also remains but could, at least, be

dealt with. At present the situation is much as it was in January. Venables is still going hut oo successor bas been appointed. might well accept it. But they That may change next week,

when Venables is expected to meet Graham Kelly, the FA's

to be settled until the end of the domestic season. If the FA followed Gascoigne's advice and offered Venables a long contract he

Photograph: David Ashdown would also have to be prepared

to ride out any storms, from the court cases or the Teddy Sherchief executive, to 'discuss the ineham transfer inquiry, which succession', but nothing is likemay follow.

Venables will select from a full squad for tomorrow's match at Wembley. Liverpool's Robbie Fowler is expected to be given a full dehut in attack.

### Seaman at Arsenal until end of century

David Seaman, the Arsenal and England goalkeeper, is to stay at Highbury until the end of the century. "Tve agreed a two-year extension to my cur-rent contract and that would take me up to 2000," said Seaman, whu is set to earn his 23rd cap against Croatia tumorrow.

"I am very happy with the way things are going at Arsenal and it's good for me to have got the contract things out of the way so I can focus on the summer, be said.

The 32-year-old has been the mainstay of the Arsenal defence since his £1.3m move from Queen's Park Rangers six years ago and has now estab-lisbed himself as Terry Venables' first-choice goalkeeper.

Bruce Rioch, the Arsenal manager, recently scrapped the club's flat back four system in the absence of the injured Tony Adams and Steve Bould, which Seaman says was a surprise, but one that has paid off and was the way forward.

"It took courage to do it, be-cause everybody knew our back four and what we'd actieved," he said. "But Martin Keown, Andy Linighan and Scott Marsball have got together and while it means I've had more work to do. more saves to make, it's better for the side because you're creating more at the other end."

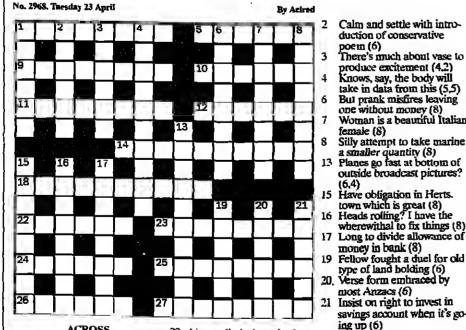
Alan Shearer is confident he will be ready to lead the England line in Euro 96, just eight

weeks after his groin operation. The Blackburn striker went into hospital last Thursday and plans to resume training when he returns to Ewood Park. "I'm very optimistic, the operation has gone very well," Shearer said.

"I'm glad that I went ahead aod bad it when I did. I know that time is moving on; but my specialist bas told me that it looks fine."

### THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD

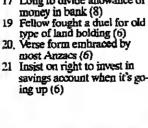




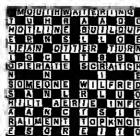
- Is surrounded by connected top men in this? (8)
- For example stocking up British wine is going out (6) Scot takes one woman back for something to eat (\$) 10 Crooked fellow dismissed
- from amusement arcide (6) 11 Felt unhappy about remnant 12 Examination involving De-
- partment of Employment is a 27 nightmare (6) 14 Criticise computers which are
- bad for consumers? (4-6)
  18 Request delivery of The Independent? MP needs it (5,5)
- 22 Aims to limit the writer's 23 A call for help to secure optimum in fire resistant ma-
- 24 I'm about to remain in the same place (6) Hit and caned for misbe-
- having in performance? (3-5) 26 Poor quarter got the thumbs down (6)

Resolute person is begin-

ning to limit bad law (8) That is a person coming up.



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### Atherton reappointed as captain against India

Cricket DEREK PRINGLE

Michael Atherton was yesterday confirmed as England's captain for the Test and one-day series against India. The news came as Atherton was waiting to go in to bat at Old Trafford, where Lancashire were playing York-

shire in a one-day friendly.
"I'm delighted," he said, when asked about his reappointment. "I feel full of running and refreshed. There are a few oew faces about and I'm full of optimism. Hopefully that optimism can be fulfilled."

Quick to dismiss rumours

that he had been close to quitting after England's lamentable World Cup, Atherton said: "I felt down, but it didn't take long to get up again."

about Atherton's reappointment, nor the length of it. According to England's coach, David Lloyd, the process took less than 30 seconds, though it had later to be rubber-stamped by Dennis Silk,

the chairman of the TCCB. For one thing, there are no other candidates worthy of long term consideration. And secondly. Atherton is resolutely the right man for the joh even if his body language is occasionally wrong, particularly during postmatch press conferences, where his demeanour often suggests he feels he is dealing with more than just the one buffoon he thought-

lessly singled out in Pakistan. Atherton, for whom Tesi cricket is a very serious business indeed, feels he cannot win. When England do badly he simply cannot bring himself to

There is nothing surprising shrug it off with frivolity. When esty forbids him from lauding himself or his team too loudly.

At 28, the Lancashire opener is still determined despite his meagre record of seven wins from 29 Tests in charge. English cricket may be in the doldrums. but they are fortunate to have in Atherton a man not afraid to thrust his bare hands into the nettle bed, knowing full well what the consequences are likely to be.

It is a rare instinct among modern sportsmen, whose tendency towards self-preservation seems inborn. In many respects he is like his predecessor and now co-se-lector, Graham Gooch. But, like him, he will have his saturation point and England will have to start winning if he is to keep his appente intact. For the moment, he is hungry once more.

### Parrott falls to impressive Lawler

This was the first time in 13

visits to The Crucible that Par-

Snooker

There was a surprise victory for Rod Lawler yesterday in the Embassy World Championship, as he beat John Parrott 10-6 to earn a second-round match against Dave Harold. Parrott became the second top-16 seed out of the first round following Gary Wilkinson's 10-9 defeat of David Roe.

"This bas got to be the best result of my career," said Lawler, currently the world No 40. "John said some very complimentary things about the way I played and that was very sporting of him."

opening burdle. "I've no com-plaints," he said. "After all, I've scraped a few 10-9s in my time. From 7-6 to 10-6 that's the best I've ever seen Rod play. He's a hard competitor and if there's 40 or 50 to be had, be'll get them. Now it will be interesting to see just how far be can go. Parrott began the day 6-3 down, hut seemed well on course to end Lawler's chal-

cleared brown to pink to regain rott had failed to clear the the advantage.

Lawler's victory means be will have to cancel an invitation to play in Pakistan later this week

for Parrutt, for he went in off

the final brown and Lawler

to prepare for his best-of-25 frames match with Harold. A winner of minor tour

events in Finland and China this year, the 24-year-old Lawler said: "John is one of the players I looked up to when I first started out. I'm really proud of the way I played. The game is so competitive now that you can go out of three or four tournaments without even noticing." Results, Sporting Digest, page 25 13th frame proved to be unlucky

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lenge when the match resumed.

In 46 minutes, he compiled

breaks of 99, 60 and 87 to tie the

scores at 6-6. However, the



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